

Co. G recruits train to control with minimum force

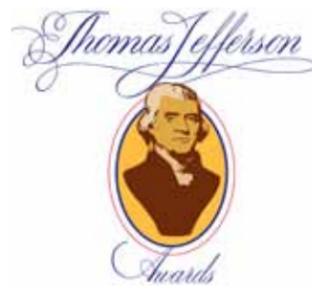
p. 8



MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



Winner of the 2011
Thomas Jefferson Award
For Excellence in Print Journalism

Vol. 72 – Issue 27

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

Co. I learns history lesson at depot museum



BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE
Chevron staff

The Marine Corps can proudly claim 236 years of heroes, triumphs and tradition. Significant events such as the Battle of Belleau Wood, 1918, and the Barbary Coast War, 1801 through 1805, memorialized in the line from the Marines' Hymn — “the shores of Tripoli,” define the Corps. Study of these events allow people to see how the organization has developed and can give new Marines confidence and pride, in the Corps.

Recruits of Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, visited the Command Museum Aug. 29 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

“Recruits are people who want to be Marines,” said Leonard Howard, docent coordinator, Command Museum. “They have a desire and drive that push them to want to be part of our legacy, our band of warriors; we are here to share the legacy.”

Every platoon aboard the depot has an opportunity to visit the museum before departing

Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Pfc. Abraham Delcid, Platoon 3201, Co. I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, reads over a brief description on the history of the raising of the American flag atop Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima during World War II, during a visit to the depot's Command Museum Aug. 29. Learning the history of the Corps enhances the experience of being a Marine and allows recruits to gain confidence knowing that they are part of the legacy.

see HISTORY ▶ 2

High personal appearance standards learned early, often



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

Co. G recruits got to sit down Sept. 5, long enough to get their weekly haircuts at the depot's recruit barber shop. The weekly event is part of the process of teaching recruits to maintain a Marine Corps image.

BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II
Chevron staff

It was only a week since the last time, but Company G's recruits found themselves sitting in the depot's recruit barber shop's chair Sept. 5, making sure that their haircuts were presentable.

What could appear as just another haircut to civilians is part of something much more for recruits and drill instructors.

Recruits have no choice in the type or frequency of their haircuts during recruit training, they all receive the same buzz cut. But instead of seeing the negative they understand that it's part of learning how to maintain a proper Marine image. Some recruits even enjoy the short hair.

Recruit Jonathan B. Kratz, guide, Platoon 2143, Co. G, said he started cutting his hair short in the months leading to recruit training to get used to the feel of a buzz cut. He said he likes the style because it's a representation of the Marine Corps.

“Image is the first thing people see when you walk into a room,” said Kratz, guide, Platoon 2143, Co. G. “I want to set a good first impression of the Marine Corps.”

Kratz also explained that he likes the short hair because it feels clean and knows it's also important for all the recruits to be in unison to support teamwork.

“I'm sure it will be hard at times but I'm glad

see HAIRCUT ▶ 2



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

Sgt. Joseph Rice, academic instructor, Support Battalion, gives a class to recruits of Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 7. Rice taught about various Marine history topics such as The Landing of Da Nang and the battle of The Chosin Reservoir.

Recruits learn of Corps' triumphs

BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II
Chevron staff

Since the birthday of the Marine Corps, Nov. 10, 1775, Marines have fought in numerous battles across the globe.

During training recruits are taught about these major battles and how each has affected how the Marine Corps trains, as well as the appearance of the dress uniform aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Sept. 7.

One recruit said that learning about the battles made him understand why Marines carry themselves with so much con-

fidence and why the Marine Corps has a reputation as an elite fighting force.

“I've learned that the blood stripe is for all the blood that was lost at the Battle of Chapultepec,” said Recruit Luis Alvarez, Platoon 1042, Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion. “I've learned the uniform code and every little piece of the uniform is something that represents our history.”

Marine instructors and drill instructors constantly teach Marine history throughout recruit training, and don't limit

see TRIUMPHS ▶ 2



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Co. I recruits learn about the Marine Corps' role in the Pacific in World War II during a visit to the depot's Command Museum. The exhibit case they are viewing is an interactive display on a three-dimensional map of the Western Pacific that allows museum visitors to call up and follow the action of famous battles from Midway to Okinawa. Recruits who learn about the Corps history better understand the Corps' traditions and legacy.

HISTORY ◀ 1

on the Crucible, a 54-hour field training exercise that mentally and physically tests recruits in order to earn their Eagle, Globe and Anchor.

Their time at the museum isn't meant to be stressful; it gives the recruits a chance to interact with history, ask questions and allow them to act accordingly without the watchful eyes of their drill instructors.

"These museum visits always boost morale and confidence for the recruits," explained Howard, a retired Marine lieutenant colonel. "They'll hear stories of heroism and self-sacrifice and it'll inspire them before they step-off for the Crucible."

Each platoon is lead by a docent, a person who leads guided tours. Those people are Marine veterans who guide the recruits through every exhibit in the museum. They enthusiastically bestow knowledge and history of the Marine Corps to the recruits and encourage them to engage in the exhibits.

It's important for the future to learn

about the past because a lot of those events that have occurred will give insight to the future, explained Howard, who served in the Marine Corps for more than 30 years.

"Hearing the history from the docents enhances the entire experience for them and reaffirms why they joined the Marine Corps," said Howard, a 62-year-old San Diego native. "They'll hear the historical stories then the personal stories and it justifies what they just learned."

While recruits explored the museum and took advantage of their few hours of freedom, one recruit had a more personal attachment to a particular exhibit above the rest.

"My grandfather served with the 4th Marine Division in World War II," said Pfc. Max Erban, platoon 3201, Co. I., as he stood in front of a glass case containing the division's red and yellow insignia. "He always told me his war stories and about how he served with John Basilone."

The 18-year-old Chicago native explained his grandfather's experience

is what sparked his desire to enlist in the Marine Corps.

"Seeing all the history just confirms everything I've ever heard from him," said Erban. "All the stories about brotherhood, the values instilled and the transformation of making nothing into something."

According to Erban, learning about Marine history allows us to see where we've come from and gives depth into who we really are. He also feels that making this visit is a confidence booster before embarking on the Crucible.

"It really is motivating and gives you a sentimental feeling," said Erban. "It's important that we learn about it because there is no future without the past."

As Erban walked away from the exhibit, he hoped that he'll be able to contribute to history through his Marine Corps career.

With the impact made through our Marine Corps history, Co. I moved on to the Crucible. Holding their newly earned Eagle, Globe and Anchors, the new Marines can embark on their own journey to make history.

HAIRCUT ◀ 1

to learn the Marine standard," said Kratz. "It seems Marines hold their image really high and are very proud of themselves."

Haircuts are only one of the ways recruits learn about the Marine image. One of the biggest influence for a recruit is seeing how their drill instructors take care of themselves.

"We not only enforce being clean and smelling good but we live it," said Staff Sgt. Andres G. Navarro, senior drill instructor, 2143, Co. G. "There is a reason why many drill instructors shave their head, because it looks the cleanest."

"If they see their drill instructors well groomed and look-

ing good they're going to act like that," said Navarro. "They're going to get more from that than sitting in a classroom learning about it."

After the recruits finished getting their hair cuts they lined back up to return to their squad bays. "I think the short hair is a part of the Marine image," said Recruit Nicholas T. Bower, Plt. 2143, Co. G. "I'm a fan of Marine tradition and I think this is a step in maintaining it."

Whether influenced by the repetition of short haircuts, witnessing their drill instructors appearance or a combination of both, it appeared many recruits acknowledge the importance of presenting a sharp Marine image.

TRIUMPHS ◀ 1

themselves to teaching solely what's in the books. Early in their training, recruits are given a green book filled with Marine knowledge as a reference during such classes.

"We just try and give them that extra step. There is a lot of knowledge you can't fit into that green monster they have," said Staff Sgt. Antonio J. Curry, drill instructor, Plt. 1042, Co. C. "The more you teach them the better they will be. We don't give them the bare minimum we give them our all."

During their class recruits gathered in an auditorium sized classroom and

listened to Sgt. Joseph Rice, academic instructor, Support Battalion, try and relate some of the topics to current events such as Afghanistan.

Rice said he believes relating the history topics to events happening now is his way of giving recruits an opportunity to compare it to something that has happened during their lifetime.

"If the topic happened way before they were born it's harder for them to relate to it than something current like Afghanistan," said Rice.

After the class ended recruits were able to recall information such as why Marines wear a blood stripe, the Corps birthday and famous battles that added to the

Marine Corps' reputation as an elite fighting force.

Alvarez, 18 years old, explained he noticed a difference between history taught in high school and history taught in recruit training.

"In the military history is different. It's more about honoring those who have made the Marine Corps what it is," said Alvarez. "Civilian history has more of a theme of knowing the past because it repeats itself."

Whether learning about the battle of Chapultepec and why it has affected the Marine dress uniform or learning about Afghanistan, recruits are all learning Marine history to ultimately become more knowledgeable and better Marines.

BRIEFS

Family Disaster Plan

Disaster can strike quickly and without warning. Disaster can force evacuation or trap people in their homes. Disasters can interrupt basic services; water, gas, electricity, telephones.

Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but cannot reach everyone right away.

Families can – and do – cope with disaster by preparing in advance and working together as a team. Follow the steps on <http://www.nationalterroralert.com/familyplan/> to create a family disaster plan.

Knowing what to do and when and how to do it is the best protection in disasters.

Contact Mission Assurance at (619) 524-8432/8839 for information or assistance.

Weekly Bible Study

A weekly Bible Study will be held every Tuesday from 11:45 a.m., until 12:30 p.m., in the HQSVC Battalion conference room. The conference room is located on deck 2, Building 15.

For information, contact Chaplain Cates at (619) 524-6928, or via e-mail at gregory.cates@usmc.mil.

Jewish High Holiday Services.

- Sept. 17 – 9 a.m. RTR Bldg. 28

Chaplain Jewish room

Rosh Hashanah

- Sept. 21 – 6 p.m. RTR Bldg. 28

Chaplain Jewish room

Regular Shabbat Services

- Sept. 21 – 6 p.m. RTR Bldg. 28

Chaplain Jewish room

Tuesday Evening of Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre)

- Sept. 21 – 9 a.m. RTR Bldg. 28

Chaplain Jewish room

Wednesday Morning of Yom Kippur (Yizkor)

- Sept. 26 – 6 p.m. RTR Bldg. 28

Chaplain Jewish room

Wednesday Concluding service for

Yom Kippur

BootCamp Challenge Special

Active duty military members will be able to participate in this year's BootCamp Challenge at a special low rate of \$19 per person. The rate for DoD/NAFi personnel is \$39 per person.

For more information, contact Diana Vuong at (619) 524-8083, or via e-mail at vuongd@usmc-mccs.org.

SMP volunteer opportunity

The Single Marine Program is looking for volunteers to help feed the homeless at Father Joe's Village.

SMP will serve the evening meal

Sept. 17, from 3:30 to 7 p.m.

Transportation is provided.

Sign-up now, space is limited.

Contact Josh Davis at (619) 524-8240, or via davisjp@usmc-mccs.org, for more information.

Basic Sailing Class

The Boathouse is offering a two-day basic sailing class Sept. 22 and 23, from 10 a.m., to 4 p.m. Cost is \$25. Students must be present for both days.

The course is tailored for the beginner and also as a refresher for the "old salt." This is a hands-on program with almost all instruction aboard a boat on the water.

For more information, call (619) 524-5269

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.

Around the depot

This week the Chevron asks: "Why do you think it's important to vote?"



I think it's important to vote because it gives people the opportunity to exercise their right to the 1st amendment. Lance Cpl. Hakeem Shaffi, postal clerk, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



We're very fortunate to have the right to vote as Americans, and I believe everyone should vote as long as they're informed. Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Lasko, musician, Marine Band San Diego



It's important to vote because that one vote can make a difference. Gunnery Sgt. Jefferson Edouasie, assistant training chief, Headquarters and Service Battalion



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Military and civilian, adults and children, men and women are getting ready for the September 29 BootCamp Challenge by participating in a six-week training course at the depot's fitness center. The BootCamp Challenge is a three-mile course holding more than 50 obstacles, populated by Marine Corps drill instructors to encourage participants to greater efforts.

Runners get ready for BootCamp Challenge

BY CPL. MATHEUS J. HERNANDEZ
Chevron staff

Service members, families and Department of Defense personnel are getting in shape at the fitness center aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego during a six week training course to prepare for the BootCamp Challenge.

The BootCamp Challenge is the kick-off to San Diego's fleet week and serves as an open house to the community aboard MCRD San Diego. The depot will host the 10th Annual BootCamp Challenge on Sept. 29 with drill instructors providing direction and encouragement for participants.

With a three mile course

ahead of participants, holding more than 50 obstacles to complete, contestants must strengthen their endurance before facing the rigorous course.

The purpose of the training schedule is to prepare participants for the challenge, allowing them to be more prepared for the event. The classes will cease three days prior to the main event.

"I designed the course with the challenge in mind and using my previous Marine Corps knowledge and training that I have to help them prepare for it," said Josh Waters-Jackson, recreation aid, Semper Fit, Marine Corps Community Service. "We try to mix it up every time (participants) come out here."

The training schedule has consisted of running drills, sprints and circuit courses with multiple exercises.

These exercises are preparing everyone for the drills they will face later on, such as hay jumps, tunnel crawls, trenches, cargo netting and push-up stations.

So far, nearly 80 percent of the people who started the training are still involved, with roughly 30 to 40 participants in each class.

Although, training for the challenge is demanding, volunteers and participants managed to make it enjoyable, according to Waters-Jackson.

"It's a great family activity. Our whole family comes out here and we have a lot of fun doing it together," said Edward

Zimmerman, a participant in the training. "We've put our youngest daughter in the stroller and ran with her. I even carried our son on my shoulders as we ran."

Halfway into the course, participants have shown good progress and have been getting more used to working hard, according to Willie Covington, fitness trainer, Semper Fit.

"Every week we have to challenge them. When we started some people said they will just walk it if they get tired," said Covington. "My reply to them was 'you're not walking, you're running.' At the end of the six weeks, before they face the BootCamp Challenge, I want them to say I can do this."



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Service members, families and Department of Defense personnel exercise on a depot circuit course to get ready for BootCamp Challenge. The training schedule helps runners be prepared. MCRD hosts the 10th annual BootCamp Challenge on Sept. 29, kick-off date of San Diego's fleet week.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

The Zimmerman's do push-ups during a circuit course in preparation for the BootCamp Challenge aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Sept. 6. "It's a great family activity," said Edward Zimmerman, a training participant. "Our whole family comes out here and we have a lot of fun doing it together."



COMMANDING GENERAL
BRIG. GEN. DANIEL D. YOO

SERGEANT MAJOR
SGT. MAJ. SYLVESTER D. DANIELS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
MAJ. MICHAEL W. ARMISTEAD

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
JANICE M. HAGAR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF
MASTER SGT. ROBERT G. KNOLL

PRESS CHIEF
STAFF SGT. LEONARD F. LANGSTON

PRESS NCOIC
CPL. ERIC C. QUINTANILLA

COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS
CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II
CPL. MATHEUS J. HERNANDEZ
LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE

EDITOR
ROGER EDWARDS

CONTACT THE CHEVRON
RDSD_PAO@USMC.MIL

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

WWW.MCRDSD.MARINES.MIL

The Chevron, printed with appropriated funds in compliance with Marine Corps order P5600.31F, is published 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 no way should be considered directive in nature. All photos are official USMC property unless otherwise indicated.

O-course challenges recruits aboard MCRD San Diego

BY CPL. MATHEUS J. HERNANDEZ
Chevron staff

As recruits formed in columns of four, they prepared to face another obstacle in recruit training, which appeared to be more physically demanding than anything they had seen this far.

Within the second week of their training cycle, recruits of Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, were introduced to the obstacle course during recruit training aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 7.

The course, also known as the "O-course," consists of pulling themselves over bars and walls, climbing over logs and climbing up a rope approximately 20 feet high.

Since recruits were running the obstacle for the first time, drill instructors focused their attention on the technique recruits used. "This is the introduction, so we want to make

sure they're using the right techniques," said Gunnery Sgt. Henry R. French, senior drill instructor, Platoon 2133, Co. F. "It's important for them to know differ-

ent techniques so they know how to do it properly next time." Before the course began, drill instructors gave

a demonstration to recruits on the different methods to use when encountering different obstacles.

At the end of the obstacle, recruits then gathered around the ropes where they

were taught how to climb using two methods.

For the introduction, recruits were only required to climb the rope half way and come back down. They were then instructed to perform combat carries.

Recruits were then shown how to properly perform a fireman's carry and a buddy-drag where it would simulate having to evacuate casualties in a combat situation.

Although technique was the main focus of the course this time, building upper-body strength is also a crucial part of the event, according to French.

"The rope climbing was a lot of upper body work," said Recruit Elijah D. Searl, platoon 2134, Co. F. "It was really tough. There were definitely some challenging parts to it."

Searl, standing at approximately 5-foot, 6-inches, found it somewhat difficult to complete portions of the obstacles.

That did not prevent him from accomplishing his task.

"When things got hard, recruits kept each other motivated," said Searl. "As long as you got the heart to keep going, height should not matter."

"Some recruits had a little trouble with the O-course, but with a little more time and practice, we'll have it perfected."



Recruits of Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, watch as drill instructors demonstrate how to properly climb the rope during the obstacle course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Sept. 7. Recruits were instructed to use one of either two methods to climb the rope, the "j-hook" or the "s-method."



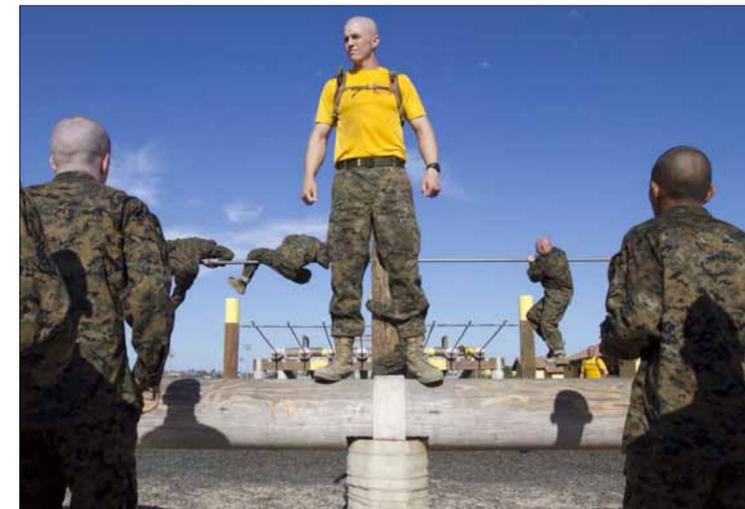
Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Recruits of Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, climb over logs during the obstacle course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Sept. 7. After completing the course, recruits were then instructed to perform combat carries from beginning to end using the fireman's carry and the buddy drag.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

A Company F recruit pulls his weight up as he attempts to climb over the bar while running the depot's obstacle course Sept. 7.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

A Company F drill instructor controls the traffic as recruits enter the obstacle course during recruit training Sept. 7. Recruits were closely monitored since this was their first time running the course.

Cuban native becomes a Marine, seeks citizenship

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE
Chevron staff

Like any child, Pvt. Javier Blanco, Platoon 3206, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, only knew of his first few years of life through stories and pictures from his family.

Blanco was born in Havana, Cuba in 1993 and when he was 7-months-old, his family and 23 other refugees left Cuba in attempt to reach the Florida Keys.

"We were out on the water for 19 hours until the Coast Guard caught us," said Blanco, 19. "We were all sent to Guantanamo Bay processing, which took about 6 months."

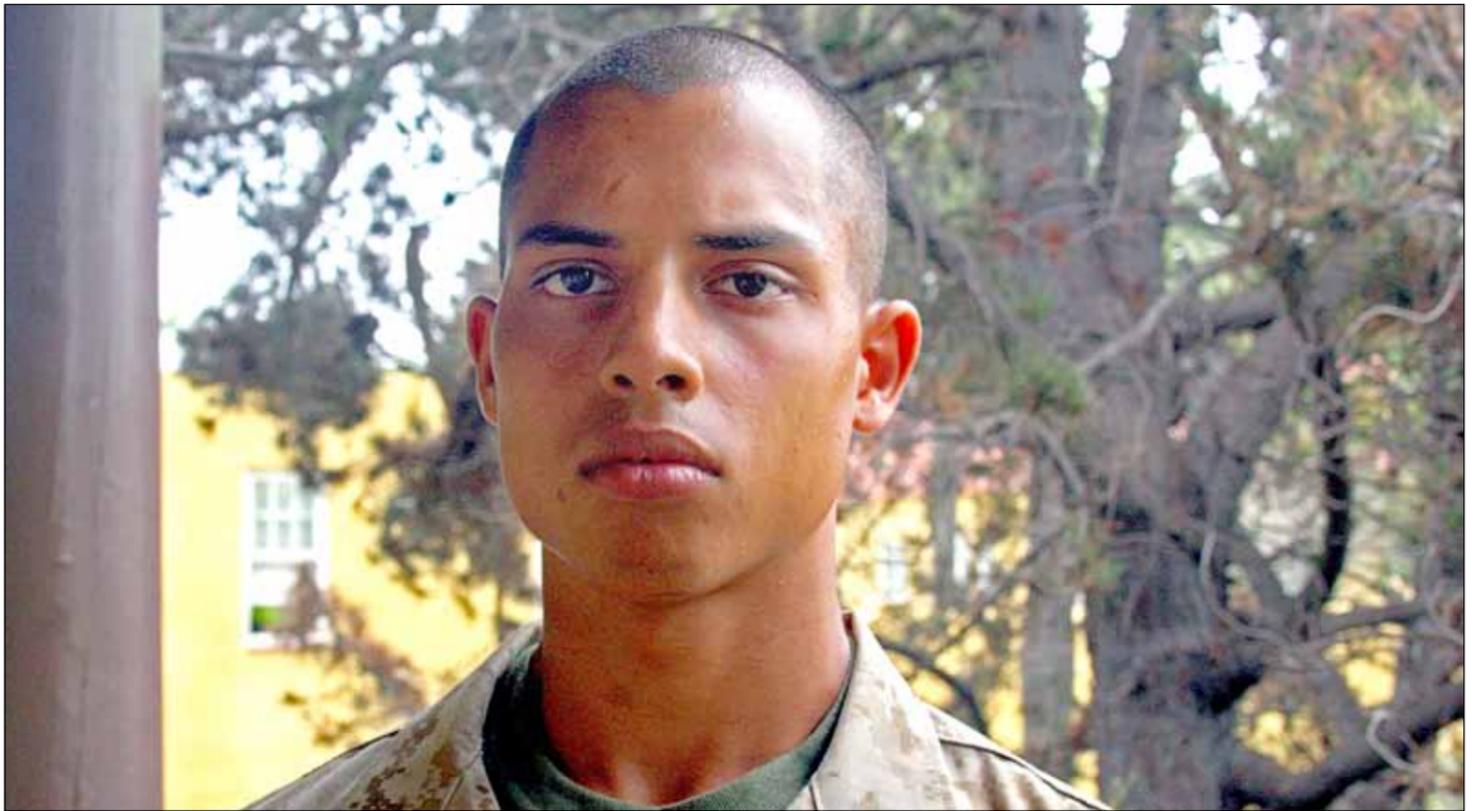
By the time they were all able to leave, Blanco was more than a year old. They moved to San Diego in 1994, where Blanco's mother gave birth to his younger brother.

"We were pretty much alone in California, just me and my family," explained Blanco. "We later moved to Texas where we had other family, and that's when we started to adjust to living."

Over the years, the Blanco family became accustomed to living in America. Blanco attended Northbrook High School in Houston where he played sports and participated in The Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

"Freshman year of high school, my friend and I decided that we wanted to join the Marine Corps together," said Blanco.

Blanco, whose father served in the Cuban military, admired Marines because of their strength, precision and how they carried themselves. Although



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Pvt. Javier Blanco, Platoon 3206, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, wanted to be a Marine since he was a freshman in high school. He took part in the Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps and was offered a scholarship through the program, but was later denied because he wasn't a citizen. Blanco stayed motivated and still pursued his career in the Marine Corps, not letting anything get in the way of his dreams.

he was never influenced by his father's military experiences, Blanco still received his support.

"My mother didn't want me to join, but my father respected my decision and gave me his support," explained Blanco.

The active teenager kept up with his studies and athletics, while attending poolee functions at the local recruiting station. He was elected to receive a scholarship from JROTC, but was later denied because he was not a citizen.

"I felt pretty low about myself when I couldn't get the scholarship anymore," said Blanco. "I just continued to go to poolee

functions and tried to stay positive."

July 11, 2011, a 17-year-old Blanco raised his right hand and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Once he graduated from high school, he shipped off to recruit training June 18 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

The fast-paced, high stress environment of recruit training can put any recruit into shock. Blanco admits he had a hard time adjusting at first, but he kept his head up and constantly pushed himself.

"I knew Blanco for about a year because we attended poolee

functions together," explained Pvt. Alexander Lunsford, Plt. 3206. "He was physically fit and always motivated others."

Lunsford, an 18-year-old Houston native, explained that Blanco adjusted well to recruit training and always cared more about the platoon than himself.

"He always went out of his way to help someone else before he took care of what he needed to do; everyone noticed, even the drill instructors," said Lunsford.

Sgt. Carlos Soto, senior drill instructor, Plt. 3206, noticed how hard Blanco worked to excel above his peers.

"He was always motivated and he literally pushed himself to his limits every day," said Soto. "His past experiences made him try so much harder than other recruits so he always stood out."

Both Soto and Lunsford explain that Blanco has something that stands out over most recruits, which is heart and that nothing will hold him back to succeed.

With a dedication that only comes from deep within, Blanco looks forward to his Marine Corps career and earning his citizenship through the military.

Sgt. Maj. James K. Porterfield

Parade Reviewing Officer

Sergeant Major James K. Porterfield is the sergeant major of Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. He was born Nov. 26, 1970, in Jacksonville, Fla., and enlisted in the Marine Corps in March 1989. He completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.

Following graduation from recruit training in August 1989, Porterfield reported to Millington, Tenn., for basic avionics training. He was graduated from training in March 1990, and was directed to report to Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C., for training on AV-8B Harrier systems.

Following school Porterfield was assigned to Marine Attack Squadron 211 in July 1990. In June 1992 he was attached to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-161 (Reinforced), 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit for Operation Desert Stay in Southwest Asia, Restore Hope in Somalia, Operation Eager Mace in Kuwait and Operation Nautical Mantis in Saudi Arabia. In May 1993 his unit deployed to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, for the

unit deployment plan.

In September 1996 Porterfield was attached to HMM-166 (REIN) as senior noncommissioned officer in charge of the AV-8B Harrier detachment, 11th MEU for Operation Southern Watch returning in April 1997.

In September 1997, Porterfield was transferred to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego where he served as a drill instructor, senior drill instructor and chief drill instructor assigned to Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion.

In 1999, Porterfield was selected as the 3rd Battalion Drill Instructor of the Year and Drill Instructor of the Quarter (fourth quarter).

In February 2000, Porterfield checked into the Instructional Training Company, where he earned the MOS 8551 close combat instructor designation. In April 2000 he transferred to Drill Instructor School for duty as a squad instructor, serving as the General Military Subjects instructor, Techniques of Military Instruction instructor, and Uniform Instructor and Curriculum Developer.

Ordered to MCAS Yuma in January 2002, Porterfield reported to Marine Attack Squadron 214 as the avionics division noncommissioned

officer in charge. Upon deploying in January 2003, he served as the avionics division chief in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Southern Watch and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Upon his return from Iraq, Porterfield received orders to 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as Kilo Battery first sergeant, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines until January 2004.

Porterfield received orders to 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and, shortly after arriving, he was assigned to Alpha Company. He deployed in February 2004 in support of

Operation Iraqi Freedom II, and participated in the first push into Fallujah in April 2004.

Porterfield then re-deployed back to Iraq for the third time, to participate in Operation Steel Curtain in Husaybah. He returned in March 2006.

Porterfield reported to Recruiting Station Portland in March 2007, where he served as the recruiting station sergeant major until December 2009 when he received orders to 1st Marine Division. Upon arrival he was assigned to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion and deployed to Afghanistan in May 2010. There he participated in Operation New Dawn in Trek Nawa and Eastern Endeavor in

Sangin.

The sergeant major assumed his current post in December 2011.

Porterfield's personal decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device and two Gold Stars, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device and three Gold Stars and the Combat Action Ribbon with gold star and Basic Airborne wings. Sergeant Major Porterfield also has a Bachelors' degree in Public Administration from Roger Williams University.



"Marines - let me be the first to congratulate you on a job well done and welcome you and your families to our Corps. It is your selfless devotion to duty, country and Corps that make your sacrifice so special to this great nation. It is this very sacrifice that will ensure our Corps continues its illustrious history for hundreds of years to come.

As you continue to write the next chapter in our proud legacy, never forget our core values of honor, courage and commitment and use them as your guiding principles in everything you do both on and off duty.

Once again, congratulations Marines, God speed and Semper Fidelis!"



| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| Platoon 3201 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. J. L. Calzaretta Corte Madera, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. J. G. Ramirez | Platoon 3206 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. J. E. Moseley Mansfield, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. D. L. Brooks | Platoon 3202 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. A. Estrada Rosenburg, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. L. Sanchez | Platoon 3203 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. B. T. Vanderpool Black Canyon City, Ariz. Recruited by Sgt. L. Banks Jr. | Platoon 3205 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. V. J. Alcantara Riverside, Calif. Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. A. Settles | Platoon 3207 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. B. Lundberg Excelsior, Minn. Recruited by Sgt. D. A. Zevnik | Platoon 3202 HIGH SHOOTER (335) Pvt. T. W. Finnin Amarillo, Texas Marksmanship Instructor Sgt. J. A. Poe | Platoon 3202 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. J. A. Estrada Rosenburg, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. L. Sanchez |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|



INDIA COMPANY

3rd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. M. A. Reiley
Sgt. Maj. E. Gonzalez
Staff Sgt. C. M. Battiest



| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| COMPANY I Commanding Officer Capt. P. J. Eickhoff Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. D. R. Coan | SERIES 3201 Series Commander Capt. G. A. Wilson Chief Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. O. Ornelas | PLATOON 3201 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. D. A. SanSoucie Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. J. R. Borski Staff Sgt. A. C. Curtis Staff Sgt. R. G. Rivas | PLATOON 3202 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. J. A. Salguero Drill Instructors Sgt. M. C. Birch Sgt. E. G. Covington Sgt. R. Funez | PLATOON 3203 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. M. J. Chavez Drill Instructors Sgt. T. T. Huber Sgt. C. M. Hutson Sgt. J. A. Tarvis |
| | SERIES 3205 Series Commander Capt. S. A. Farrar Chief Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. E. D. Ramirez | PLATOON 3205 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. N. G. DeWeever Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. J. L. Fair Sgt. A. G. Rihn Sgt. P. Montano Jr. | PLATOON 3206 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. C. S. Soto Drill Instructors Sgt. A. K. Brown Sgt. A. R. Klco Sgt. C. D. Osoria Sgt. K. G. West | PLATOON 3207 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. Lerma Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. H. Jimenez Sgt. C. Q. Hye |

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 3201
 Pfc. C. Albright
 Pvt. C. E. Alvitre
 Pfc. M. W. Andert
 *Pfc. M. Andres-Miguel
 Pvt. M. A. Beal
 Pvt. K. J. Bear
 Pvt. W. O. Behnen
 Pvt. R. J. Blackwell
 *Pfc. D. P. Blake
 *Pfc. N. T. Bloomer
 Pvt. T. J. Boehringer
 Pvt. C. R. Bosworth
 Pvt. J. A. Bray
 Pvt. C. M. Breton
 Pvt. J. A. Brock
 Pvt. D. G. Buchanan
 Pfc. J. I. Burnett
 *Pfc. S. G. Burns
 Lance Cpl. J. L. Calzaretta
 Pvt. A. J. Camerer
 Pfc. J. I. Cavazos
 *Pfc. R. W. Chandler
 Pvt. E. Chavez
 Pvt. D. G. Cheek
 Pvt. T. M. Conlin
 Pvt. M. Corona
 *Pfc. P. E. Cotti
 Pvt. A. D. Crosno
 Pvt. J. H. Crow
 Pvt. E. L. Crozier
 Pfc. J. C. Cuhbert
 Pvt. E. C. Dehoney
 Pfc. A. A. Del Cid
 Pvt. M. Diaz
 Pvt. G. L. Do
 Pvt. D. M. Doane
 Pfc. A. J. Donnelly
 Pvt. J. E. Dowell
 Pfc. J. O. Dubois
 Pvt. J. R. Engelken
 Pvt. M. L. Erban
 Pvt. J. B. Etcheverry
 Pvt. L. D. Fitzsimmons
 Pfc. J. N. Frusti
 Pvt. D. Fry
 Pvt. M. A. Fuentes
 Pfc. B. R. Fulk
 Pvt. M. S. Gentle
 Pvt. T. D. Gillett
 Pvt. K. A. Giron
 Pvt. J. Godinez-Soto
 Pfc. J. K. Gonzales
 Pvt. C. C. Osgood
 Pvt. D. C. Perez
 Pvt. Z. R. Plummer
 Pfc. O. Ponce
 Pvt. F. K. Portrey
 Pvt. V. B. Povero
 Pvt. S. G. Rodriguez
 Pvt. J. Rosas
 Pvt. J. P. Roth
 Pvt. B. J. Russell
 Pvt. J. S. Sabo
 Pvt. M. Sandoval
 Pvt. E. C. Sandoval Jr.
 Pvt. J. M. Sees
 Pvt. E. A. Semberino
 Pfc. J. R. Silva
 Pfc. C. W. Sperle
 Pfc. C. T. Stein

Pfc. J. M. Steinmets
 Pfc. D. W. Stewart
 Pvt. A. Torres-Chavez
 Pvt. S. T. Truong
 Pfc. E. Velasquez
 Pfc. D. O. Venancio
 Pvt. B. K. Villarreal
 Pvt. D. R. Vineyard
 Pfc. J. D. Watts

PLATOON 3202
 Pfc. J. R. Agripino
 Pvt. S. M. Ament
 Pfc. S. T. Aragon
 Pvt. C. O. Armstrong
 *Pfc. T. N. Bakulinski
 Pfc. G. P. Balint
 Pfc. J. L. Barcelona
 Pfc. S. P. Bardo
 Pvt. D. B. Barr
 Pvt. Z. K. Bell
 *Pfc. V. A. Benitez
 Pfc. E. S. Bertelsen
 Pfc. K. R. Black
 Pvt. Z. J. Boston
 Pvt. M. W. Braden
 Pfc. W. R. Bronson
 Pvt. E. C. Brown
 Pvt. C. Brown
 Pfc. N. G. Brown
 Pfc. R. E. Burns
 Pfc. N. R. Cable
 Pfc. J. Calderon
 Pfc. S. A. Calhoun
 Pfc. L. G. Cardelli
 Pvt. R. Carrillo
 Pvt. J. S. Caruthers
 Pfc. E. R. Castilleja
 Pfc. J. A. Caticha
 Pfc. B. J. Ching
 Pvt. P. R. Coffey
 Pvt. M. D. Coyle
 Pfc. C. A. Craig
 Pfc. B. T. Dale
 Pvt. M. A. Escalante
 *Pfc. J. A. Estrada
 Pfc. R. Estrada-Benitez
 Pvt. D. D. Faddis
 Pvt. T. W. Fannin
 Pvt. P. G. Fluitt
 *Pfc. M. R. Ford
 Pvt. R. W. Franklin
 Pvt. D. J. Frear
 Pfc. M. K. Gailey
 *Pfc. R. J. Gamino
 Pfc. A. J. Gebhardt
 Pvt. S. T. Freeman
 Pfc. E. W. Goff
 Pvt. R. C. Green
 Pvt. D. R. Grimes
 Pvt. A. L. Grumbles
 Pfc. J. L. Guiza
 Pvt. T. J. Hanisch
 Pvt. R. D. Hanson
 Pvt. J. L. Hicks
 Pfc. C. J. Higgs
 Pvt. D. S. Hoahwah
 Pvt. R. F. Hoffman
 Pfc. T. Huynh
 Pvt. J. B. Jara
 Pvt. M. D. Jensen

Pvt. J. E. Jensen
 Pvt. J. B. Johnson
 Pvt. D. J. Konakis
 Pvt. T. Kuch
 Pfc. A. B. Sanchez
 Pvt. G. S. Sanchez
 Pvt. N. Sassaman
 Pvt. J. J. Sauvageau
 Pfc. A. H. Shutt
 *Pfc. D. K. Stanton
 Pvt. S. T. Stewart
 Pvt. A. Strickrodt
 Pvt. A. M. Sweetman
 Pvt. C. G. Thompson
 Pvt. D. D. Thompson
 Pvt. J. J. Tschida
 Pfc. B. T. Tsoi
 Pvt. C. S. Tucker
 Pvt. L. D. Vasquez
 Pvt. A. A. Vohs
 Pvt. J. F. Wallace
 Pfc. C. D. Ward
 Pfc. B. A. Webb
 Pfc. K. D. Webster
 Pfc. J. A. Zierer

PLATOON 3203
 Pvt. S. Acosta
 Pvt. E. C. Adkins
 Pfc. J. C. Allen
 *Pfc. C. Alvarado
 Pvt. J. S. Alvin Jr.
 Pvt. B. C. Ashker
 Pfc. J. A. S. Baber
 Pfc. K. A. Boeck
 Pvt. B. K. Bowsher
 Pvt. B. C. Bridges
 Pfc. J. S. Burros
 Pvt. C. M. Buster
 Pvt. L. W. Callahan
 Pvt. H. J. Cantu
 Pfc. J. M. Cerecedes
 *Pfc. M. A. Chaneske
 *Pfc. D. R. Charlesworth
 Pvt. T. A. Ciappa
 *Pfc. R. C. Covington
 Pfc. A. J. Crooks
 Pvt. J. V. Cullum
 Pvt. J. C. Deese
 Pvt. N. T. Delmont
 Pvt. A. T. Esparza
 Pvt. E. Esponda
 Pvt. R. T. Essink
 Pvt. M. A. Farison
 Pfc. S. E. Ferrian
 Pfc. T. G. Fischer
 Pvt. C. L. Freeman
 *Pfc. H. E. Godoy
 *Pfc. M. M. Goncalves
 Pvt. M. A. Gonzalez
 Pvt. T. J. Gregerson
 Pvt. D. A. Hall
 Pvt. A. C. Hanson
 Pvt. J. M. Hargis
 Pfc. S. A. L. Heidrich
 Pvt. D. M. Heltemes
 Pvt. J. A. Hendrickson
 Pvt. T. E. Henry
 Pvt. R. Hernandez
 Pvt. J. Hicks
 Pvt. A. M. Hinojosa

Pvt. I. C. Ingram
 Pvt. D. E. Inman
 Pvt. K. T. Kalkowski
 Pfc. I. N. Kenney
 Pvt. A. T. Kinser
 Pvt. J. R. Kutchera
 Pfc. K. R. Lages
 Pfc. J. M. Larsen
 Pfc. D. O. Laster
 Pfc. M. H. Lugo
 Pfc. D. R. Mink
 Pfc. G. Mosca
 Pfc. A. M. Murray
 Pvt. C. B. Post
 Pfc. A. J. Sanchez
 Pvt. A. T. Santoyo
 Pfc. A. Skenderovic
 Pfc. B. M. Sutherland
 Pvt. B. T. Sykora
 Pvt. M. D. Taylor
 Pvt. O. D. Threm
 Pvt. J. D. Tomlinson
 Pfc. R. J. Torres
 Pvt. D. J. Tyler
 Pfc. B. T. Vanderpool
 Pvt. G. C. Vicioso
 Pfc. K. C. Villaca
 Pvt. J. W. Voigt Jr.
 Pfc. B. M. Walsh
 Pvt. G. C. West
 Pvt. T. R. Willer
 Pvt. G. G. Wimme
 Pfc. J. Witkowski
 Pvt. M. D. Wright

PLATOON 3205
 *Pfc. V. C. Adams
 Pfc. J. E. Adams
 *Pfc. V. J. Alcantara
 Pvt. C. P. Ancheta II
 Pfc. K. R. Britton
 Pfc. B. R. Brooks
 Pvt. C. W. Brown
 Pvt. C. C. Brown
 Pvt. D. J. Busch
 Pfc. Z. R. Bush
 Pvt. J. J. Byrne
 Pfc. J. T. Cagle
 Pfc. S. R. Cannon
 *Pfc. D. J. Conde III
 *Pfc. M. A. De La Cueva
 Pfc. S. M. DeLeon
 Pvt. A. C. Dreadfulwater
 Pvt. P. J. Fedewa
 Pvt. K. D. Ferguson
 Pfc. J. R. Flavell
 Pvt. A. K. Ford
 Pvt. C. B. Fraser
 *Pfc. S. T. Gonzaga
 Pvt. W. J. Gorden Jr.
 Pfc. A. G. Guzman
 Pfc. B. M. Halvorson
 Pvt. E. M. Hanson
 Pfc. R. A. Hedges
 Pvt. A. S. Henne
 Pvt. A. Hernandez
 Pfc. L. D. Hicks
 Pvt. T. J. Hilton Jr.
 Pvt. D. J. Hoehne-Gonzales
 *Pfc. J. A. Jauregui
 Pvt. B. R. Johnson

Pvt. C. M. Kennett
 Pfc. B. B. Krussow
 Pvt. A. T. Lane
 Pvt. J. Lara-Hernandez
 Pvt. M. J. Latto
 Pfc. D. J. Laudick Jr.
 Pvt. J. P. Lechner
 Pvt. P. C. Lenz Jr.
 Pvt. J. L. Leroux
 Pvt. M. Lewandowski
 Pvt. F. A. Loftis
 Pvt. E. Lua Jr.
 Pfc. P. D. Lucht
 Pvt. A. P. Lulling
 Pfc. A. R. Mahoney
 Pfc. K. R. Medina
 Pvt. D. Merlos
 Pvt. R. J. Murphy
 Pvt. A. V. Nelson
 Pfc. S. P. Nevins
 Pvt. J. L. Nichols III
 Pvt. S. A. O'Neel
 Pvt. D. J. Orton
 Pfc. J. V. Oviedo
 Pvt. V. Pedroni
 Pvt. B. C. Pelle
 Pvt. A. E. Phillips
 Pvt. J. R. Pineda
 Pfc. C. P. Post
 Pvt. J. C. Powell
 Pvt. B. A. Price
 Pfc. M. A. Prieto
 Pvt. J. K. Puskac
 Pvt. A. A. Quinonez
 Pvt. M. M. Ramirez
 Pvt. J. M. Reyna
 Pvt. T. J. Rhodes
 Pfc. J. L. Ritter
 Pvt. T. L. Rocha
 Pvt. E. A. Rothenberger
 Pvt. J. A. Sandoval
 Pfc. M. Serrano
 Pvt. C. J. Shaffer
 Pvt. S. R. Shearin
 Pvt. A. J. Shores
 Pvt. P. S. Shryock
 Pvt. A. M. Tucker

PLATOON 3206
 Pvt. Z. D. Acfalle
 Pfc. A. Aparicio
 Pfc. R. A. Ayala
 Pvt. J. E. Berding
 Pvt. R. M. Bink
 Pvt. J. M. Bird
 Pvt. J. Blanco
 Pfc. J. E. Braga
 Pvt. J. D. Cassill
 Pvt. R. Chavez-Estrada
 Pvt. A. Clark
 Pfc. B. J. Constantino
 Pvt. E. B. Cortes
 Pfc. J. A. Cruz
 Pvt. R. P. Domingo
 Pvt. B. S. Fitzgerald
 Pvt. J. A. Flores
 Pvt. B. Gamez
 Pvt. D. M. Garcia
 Pvt. D. L. Gommert
 Pvt. G. A. Gonzalez
 Pfc. C. A. Granlund

Pfc. J. B. Green
 Pfc. M. A. Hernandez
 Pvt. T. Hernandez IV
 Pfc. J. Iturbide
 Pvt. A. J. Johnson
 Pvt. Y. S. Kim
 *Pfc. M. W. Kuck
 *Pfc. E. J. Lee
 Pvt. Q. T. Lipscomb
 Pvt. C. A. Lopez
 Pvt. A. L. Lunsford
 Pvt. P. Mateo-Hernandez
 Pvt. E. Mayfield
 Pvt. C. P. McCaghren
 Pvt. D. McDonald
 Pfc. H. J. Mead
 Pvt. J. C. Mendez
 Pvt. S. A. Mills
 Pvt. E. T. Morales
 *Pfc. J. E. Mosely
 Pfc. J. D. Moy
 Pvt. J. Mulderrig
 Pvt. B. L. Pena
 Pvt. A. Perdomo
 Pvt. T. T. Poe
 Pvt. C. Rhoades
 Pvt. S. A. Rodriguez
 Pvt. R. Rodriguez Jr.
 Pvt. O. A. Santos
 Pfc. J. W. Simpson
 *Pfc. C. L. Smith
 Pvt. C. N. Smith
 Pfc. G. A. Smith
 *Pfc. W. R. Smith
 Pvt. K. M. Sprunger
 Pfc. J. T. Stewart
 Pfc. E. R. Taylor
 Pvt. D. A. Teal
 Pvt. R. Tinsley
 Pvt. B. F. Valdovinos
 Pvt. V. A. Vasquez
 Pvt. J. Velazquez
 Pvt. T. J. Velazquez
 Pvt. H. Velazquez-Munoz
 Pfc. E. Villa Jr.
 *Pfc. C. S. Wendler
 Pvt. M. S. Windham
 Pvt. B. S. Whitson
 Pvt. T. L. Wolff
 Pvt. S. A. Wood
 Pvt. B. T. Working
 Pfc. J. T. Wright
 Pvt. M. R. Yee
 Pfc. O. F. Zepeda

PLATOON 3207
 Pfc. B. B. Delgado
 Pvt. C. M. Geisert
 Pfc. B. J. Greenwood
 Pvt. A. Guardado
 Pfc. M. S. Hall
 *Pfc. S. D. Hayes
 Pfc. R. Hernandez
 Pvt. B. C. Hodges
 Pvt. T. J. Holmes
 Pvt. R. A. Ishimaru
 Pvt. K. M. Jares
 Pfc. S. H. Jou
 *Pfc. J. T. Lechman
 Pvt. B. M. Lee
 Pvt. R. O. Lesniewski

*Pfc. J. E. Looby
 Pvt. H. E. Lopez
 Pfc. C. J. Lopez Jr.
 Pfc. W. O. Loren III
 Pvt. T. B. Lundberg
 Pvt. T. J. Macias
 Pvt. L. A. Magana-Petrona
 Pvt. Y. R. Mahardy
 Pvt. A. N. Marks
 Pvt. E. G. Martinez
 Pvt. P. K. Massey
 *Pfc. J. Mata Jr.
 Pfc. J. W. McKnight
 Pvt. D. A. Medeiros
 Pfc. T. J. Menning
 Pvt. N. J. S. Mercado
 Pvt. A. W. Miller
 Pvt. M. A. Miller Jr.
 Pfc. B. M. Mims
 Pvt. C. A. Mincemoyer
 Pvt. J. D. Minger
 Pvt. J. S. Monsma
 Pvt. D. A. Monson
 Pvt. J. Mulrath
 Pfc. D. A. Munoz
 Pvt. J. Murillo
 Pvt. E. M. Nava
 Pvt. J. Z. Nelloms
 Pfc. W. J. Nichols
 Pfc. L. J. Norman
 Pfc. S. H. Northridge
 Pfc. S. R. Novak
 Pvt. M. T. Nowak
 Pvt. G. E. Nowicki
 Pvt. L. I. Nunez
 Pvt. A. M. Ochoa
 Pvt. V. S. Oliivas
 Pfc. V. Ortega
 Pvt. G. D. Oscar Jr.
 Pfc. A. J. Owens
 Pfc. C. J. Panella
 Pvt. N. S. Patzer
 Pvt. M. C. Payette
 Pvt. N. J. Pethers
 Pvt. S. R. Pettengill
 Pvt. G. D. Pfromm
 Pvt. G. L. Phend
 Pvt. J. D. Pick
 Pfc. D. L. Pollitt
 Pvt. J. J. Quitzon
 Pvt. J. N. Ramirez
 Pvt. E. J. Reyes
 *Pfc. I. J. Rincon
 Pvt. E. Rivas
 Pvt. C. L. Robinson
 Pvt. J. M. Robinson
 Pvt. J. Rodriguez
 Pfc. J. A. Rodriguez
 Pvt. R. A. Rodriguez
 Pfc. B. N. Romanizaguilar
 Pvt. G. Rosales
 Pvt. A. Salgado
 Pvt. R. R. Salinas
 Pvt. M. J. Tyler

Co. G recruits learn 'minimum force control' techniques

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE
Chevron staff

Marines have always been taught to be constantly aware of their surroundings throughout history. They have also been known for their ability to take control of a situation if it gets out of hand and get the job taken care of.

Recruits of Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, learned armed manipulations through the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program Sept. 6 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

"Armed manipulations teaches control," said Sgt. Ryan-

Michael Daffin, martial arts instructor, Instructional Training Company, Support Battalion. "It shows them that they can use a minimum amount of force to terminate the situation."

From the day they receive their rifle in recruit training to the day they are issued their very own rifle, Marines are taught to keep their weapon with them at all times.

Armed manipulations, along with other weapons retention techniques, are used to retain a weapon if the enemy ever tried to grab it.

With the sun beating down, each recruit lines up holding a simulated M16-A4 service rifle gripped in their hands.

"The recruits are taught different blocking techniques and counters to under and over hand grabs, in the event that someone tried to take their weapon away," explained Daffin, a 25-year-old Houston native.

The recruits are also taught to be vocal with their commands. Daffin described a scenario, putting a deployed Marine in a situation where a local walks up to his post.

If the local doesn't understand English, the Marine must be loud and have confidence in his voice in order to gain control of the situation before it gets out of hand.

"We're always taught to have

a combat mindset about everything," said Recruit Jonathan Kratz, Platoon 2134, Co. G. "We always need to be prepared for any type of situation; we always have to expect the good and bad."

Kratz, a Gresham, Ore., native, believes learning armed manipulations also allows a Marine to have control of themselves and to show discipline.

"It builds character to know when and when not to use excessive force," explained Kratz. "It allows you to keep yourself in check."

Recruits paired up and executed the techniques until they were comfortable with the motion of the movement.

Although Kratz feels confident that he'd be able to defend himself with the techniques he learned, he still had a difficult time putting it all together.

"The hardest part for me was putting it into action," said Kratz. "Keeping the rifle in control and remembering to verbally tell the enemy to get down, it's a lot to think about in a stressful environment."

Co. G spent their time in the sun learning to use their rifles for more than just basic marksmanship. They are currently on Grass Week up North at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., where they learn the fundamentals of firing their weapon.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Recruits use verbal commands to get their fellow recruits on the ground after they attempted to take a simulated M16-A4 service rifle. Learning armed manipulations allows a Marine to gain control of a situation and terminate a potential threat with the least amount of force.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Company G recruits execute blocks with their rifles. Recruits are taught armed manipulation techniques through the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program to show them that they are able to defend themselves from the enemy without excessive use of force.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Recruits execute low blocks with their rifles. They are taught various blocks to defend themselves with the least amount of force before a situation escalates. Recruits are also taught to be verbal when defending themselves.