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AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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"WHERE MARINES ARE MADE"

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Recruits battle their way to become Marines

Story & Photos by LANCE CPL. JERICHO W. Crutcher Chevron staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Exhaustion set in on recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, as they fought their way through the Confidence Course during their Crucible at Edson Range, Nov. 5.

The Crucible is a 54-hour test of endurance in which recruits must conquer more than 30 different obstacles while they experience food and sleep depri-

Recruits found that teamwork was critical during the many challenges of the Confidence Course. Small unit leadership was utilized as recruits were broken down into groups of four and sent out to complete each obstacle the course had to offer.

'The Crucible's Confidence Course emphasizes the recruits ability to negotiate obstacles that simulate a combat environment," said Staff Sgt. Shawn M. Stallings, senior drill instructor, Platoon 2101. "The Crucible helps tie in the field training skills and tactical skills while allowing the recruits to be small unit leaders and utilize teamwork."

Recruits had to perform buddy drags which simulated an evacuation of an injured person. After buddy drags, recruits used



Recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, set up watch as their fellow recruits make their way across the Two Line Bridge during the Confidence Course at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Nov. 5. Recruits found that teamwork is critical during the many challenges of the Confidence Course. Small unit leadership is utilized as recruits are broken down into groups of four and sent out to complete each obstacle in the course.

firemen's carry to move their fellow recruits to a safety point.

While the course is similar to the one on the depot, the Crucible Confidence Course requires recruits to rely solely on

each other to make it through each obstacle rather than having a drill instructor walk them through it.

Drill instructors briefed their recruits on the course and then sent them out to allow them to overcome it on their own.

During the course, recruits low and high crawled with their fire team carrying a combat load with them. Once recruits

crawled to the ending point, waiting on them was an ammunition can run that was also done as a fire

see CRUCIBLE 2

Recruits learn basics of combat marksmanship

Story & Photos by CPL. WALTER D. MARINO Chevron staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, learned the fundamentals of Marine Corps combat marksmanship at Edson Range, Oct. 31.

For Recruit James A. Brickley, Platoon 2162, the possibility of failure was his biggest fear during Table Two combat marksmanship qualification. The pre-

see TARGETS > 2



Cpl. Rafael Quintana, range coach, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, reviews Recruit James A. Brickley's target, to decide if shooting adjustments are needed. If a significant number of shots are off target the range coach will help the shooter adjust weapon and stance to become more accurate.

Company G recruits fight through O-Course

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

Recruits of Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, used grit and strength to conquer the Obstacle Course while learning their bodies physical and mental limits Oct. 31 aboard the depot.

The course consisted of several different challenges and obstacles. These varied from recruits having to climb a 20 foot high rope, pulling themselves over horizontal bars and lunging their bodies over various sized logs and walls. Prior to the recruits starting, Co. G drill instructors demonstrated each part of the course to recruits, showing the recruits the proper technique for each obstacle.

The course is designed to test our physical endurance and to see what our capabilities are when we're tired and weak," said Recruit Kory B. Kistler, Platoon 2141. "A combat situation can turn into several different challenging obstacles, and you're going to have to keep pushing through to stay alive and keep your fellow Marines alive."

Recruits had to overcome every obstacle on the course before they proceeded to the next. If a recruit could not complete an obstacle, he was sent to the beginning to start again until finish-

see OBSTACLE 2



Sgt. Abraham Jarosz, drill instructor, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, instructs a recruit how to pull himself onto a bar and perform a forward roll over the top at the Obstacle Course aboard the depot, Oct. 31.



Recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, sprint with 35-pound ammunition cans simulating a combat scenario during the Confidence Course at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Nov. 5. Recruits performed each of the exercises and battled their way through each portion of the course.

CRUCIBLE 1

team. They sprinted around a set-up trail with the 35-pound ammunition cans to the end of the trail where recruits then threw a simulated grenade at a target.

The Two Line Bridge consisted of recruits working in pairs to walk across a rope to move gear from one side of the bridge to the other. While a pair of recruits make their way across the bridge, the rest of the fire team stood watch to keep an eye out for enemy movement.

"Teamwork and confidence helped us get past each challenge we faced during the Crucible Confidence Course," said Recruit Justice D. Parker, Platoon 2101. "Everything during the course simulated combat situations, such as having to get all of our gear across the Two Line Bridge while others stood watch for the recruits coming across the bridge, and we used what we've learned during recruit training to complete each obstacle we faced."

Another obstacle was the Skyscraper; it is a three story obstacle recruits climbed with their combat load and M16 A-4 service rifle. Recruits make it up the obstacle by reaching out a helping hand to their fellow recruits and pulling them up to the next story of the obstacle.

Once they reached the top they had to climb down a cargo net on the back side of the obstacle.

Eighteen-year old Parker, a Chicago native, explained that there was one goal in his mind and that was mission accomplishment, so he did as the Marines did before him and completed the mission even when his body was weak and tired from buddy drags, ammunition can lifts and all the other hardship challenges recruits go through together during the Crucible Confidence Course.

Next, the Stairway to Heaven stood approximately 50-feet tall towering over recruits as they started their way up the obstacle. Recruits went up and over the obstacle in pairs staying in cadences with each other.

Stallings, a 27-year old Houston native, explained that the Crucible Confidence Course brought it all together for the recruits of Co. E, because they had to rely on their fellow recruits to meet the mission time line, and they shared hardship as they did.

TARGETS 1

week, Brickley struggled with the rifle marksmanship test and the fear of failure carried over to his present challenge of Table Two combat marksmanship.

If recruits do not pass rifle qualification, it is possible for them to be set back in training. Brickley explained he could not fathom the idea of not graduating with his fellow recruits, with whom he had come so far.

"It came down to the last shot. If I would have missed I would have failed; and then I got five points," said the Anchorage, Alaska native about his qualification.

The qualification requires recruits to fire 42 rounds from 25-yards away and 8 shots from 10-yards away. Each round on target is worth two points and a minimum of 60 points is required to pass.

Before the test, recruits were given a practice run to familiarize themselves with what would be required of them during Table Two. A head shot and firing on moving target were just some of the exercises required.

During the practice run and test, recruits were separated into small groups and given a range coach for supervision and guidance. Recruits were corrected on stance and marksmanship fundamentals by their range coaches. This allowed recruits to learn from their mistakes. When



Cpl. Rafael Quintana, range coach, Weapons and Field Training Battalion (center), ensures Company H recruits follow all the commands given during their Table Two combat marksmanship qualification aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Oct. 31. Range coaches are available to recruits during the training to teach the basic fundamentals of combat marksmanship.

the official test began, the recruits looked noticeably more confident.

"Besides going over the fundamentals with them, the biggest thing I tell them is to relax. That's one of the most common problems recruits have," said Cpl. Rafael Quintana, range coach, Weapons and Field Training Battalion.

Brickley placed the vast majority of his shots on target. According to Staff Sgt. Jared W. Morris, line staff, Alpha Range, Weapons and Field Training Battalion has a 100 percent pass rate and 89.5 percent average score over the past fiscal year.

Morris proudly explained that the success rate correlates to the importance of the training.

"It's not just about putting holes in a target. It's about being proficient with your weap-on when under stress. We understand these skills are vital for possible combat situations."

OBSTACLE 1

"The course builds self-confidence in the recruits," said Sgt. John D. Mazurik, drill instructor. "Recruits have to push through the pain and learn not to quit when they're physically tired."

These types of exercises are meant to help recruits prepare for combat deployments and everyday missions when things are not running smoothly. "Stress is something you will also find in a combat situation," said 23-year-old Mazurik, a Spokane, Wash., native. "Having a bunch of drill instructors yelling at recruits creates stress but we also motivate them through the course."

After the final obstacle, the rope climb, recruits performed combat carries with fellow recruits.

Instructors demonstrated two

different combat carries the recruits could use to evacuate an injured person. The first carry taught was the fireman's carry and then the buddy drag.

The obstacle course may just be a series of different challenges recruits had to overcome, but in a real combat scenario it may be life or death to get over a wall or up a 20 foot rope, explained Mazurik.

BRIEFS

Strong & Healthy Relationships Expo

Marines, sailors, spouses, children and civilians are invited to attend the Relationship EXPO November 19 from 10 a.m., until 1 p.m., (between the morning and afternoon safety stand down sessions) in front of the depot theater.

Build better relationships; have a better marriage; be a better parent. Dozens of specialists, organizational representatives and ministries for Warriors and their families will be on hand. There will be children's activities and free food.

For information call 2nd Battalion Chaplain Lt. Steve Brown at (949) 235-9487, or e-mail him at Stephen.b.brown1@usmc.mil.

Racquetball Tournament

Get registered for the Nov. 19 Semper Fit/CG CUP Racquetball Tournament. The event is open to MCRD active duty and DoD and NAFI employees.

This is a one-day tournament. The event will be held at the depot racquet-ball courts at a time TBD.

For information and to register call Rachel Dickinson at (619) 524-0548, or contact via e-mail at dickinsonr@usmc-mccs.org.

Semper Fit/CG Cup 3 on 3 basketball tourney

A Semper Fit/CG Cup 3 on 3 basketball tournament is scheduled to be held at the MCRD Fieldhouse Nov. 20 (time TBD).

MCRD active duty and DoD/NAFI employees are invited to participate. Get your section register for this one day tournament aboard MCRD.

For information and to register contact Rachel Dickinson via telephone at (619) 524-0548, or via e-mail at dickinsonr@usmc-mccs.org .

Semper Fit 5K Turkey Trot

The annual Semper Fit 5K Turkey Trot runs from 1 to 4 p.m., Nov. 22. Runners will begin at the recreation center parking lot.

The event is free for all depot personnel and \$10 for guests.

The race starts and ends at the Recreation Center. There are free T-shirts, beverages and prizes at the conclusion of the race.

To pre-register go to http://www.mccsmcrd.com/ or http://mcrdruns.eventbrite.com.

Great American Smokeout

Nov. 22 marks the 37th celebration of the Great American Smokeout. There will be a Smokeout Booth on the recreation center parking lot from 1 until 4 p.m., during the Turkey Trot.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to visit the booth and take the pledge to be smoke free!

Thanksgiving Day Celebration

The Single Marine Program sponsors a Thanksgiving Day Celebration at the depot's recreation center on Nov. 28, from noon to 9 p.m.

All single service members and geographical bachelors who are unable to make it home are welcome. Join your 'family for a day,' and enjoy football on the big screen, free bowling and a traditional turkey dinner to be served at 4 p.m.

For information contact Josh Davis via telephone at (619) 524-8240, or via e-mail at davisjp@usmc-mccs.org.

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.

Operation Damayan in full swing

LANCE CPL. JOSE LUJANO III Marine Expeditionary Force / Marine Corps Installations Pacific

MANILA, Philippines - By Wednesday morning, U.S. Marines from 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade had distributed approximately 384,400 pounds of relief supplies and helped 1,735 people displaced by Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda find their way to Manila.

Operation Damayan, the U.S. government's response to the Philippine government's request for humanitarian assistance, had led to 12 U.S. Marine KC-130J Hercules fixed wing aircraft and eight MV-22B Ospreys from 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, to deploy to the Philippines to help supplies, survivors, military and civilian relief personnel reach typhoon affected areas of the country still largely impassable due to debris, flooding and a breakdown in ground transportation.

'Clearly the U.S. military offers unique capabilities," said Daniel Dieckhaus, a humanitarian assistance adviser with the office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance. "Without the U.S. military helping the Philippine armed forces with air transport capability there would be no way of getting to some of these areas.'

U.S. relief efforts include maritime search and rescue, fixed-wing lift support, medium to heavy helicopter lift support



U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Xavier L. Cannon and members of the Philippine Armed Forces assist civilians off of a C-130 aircraft Nov. 13 at Villamor Air Base as part of Operation Damayan. The U.S. and Philippine Armed Forces have transported more than 107,000 pounds of relief supplies, 140 relief and aid workers, and more than 160 displaced personnel. The militaries of the two nations have partnered and trained together for decades, which prepare both forces for the challenges associated with extreme circumstances.

and logistics enablers.

"The current situation remains the same. It's a serious disaster and there are a lot of people in need," said Dieckhaus. "But we have ramped up significantly in the last 72 to 96 hours and we know where to target. We are here, but there is a lot of work to do."

"The men and woman of the U.S. armed forces assisting the Republic of the Philippines are as dedicated to this mission as they are to the defense of their country," said Brig. Gen. Paul Kennedy, the deputy commander of III Marine Expeditionary Force and the commanding general of the 3rd MEB. "Assisting fulfills a promise that we made to friends and allies we've maintained a great relationship with over the last 100 years to be here in their time of need."

Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda has

impacted more than 4.2 million people across 36 provinces in the Philippines, according to the Philippine's national disaster risk reduction and management council.

Although stressful, hectic and at times confusing, this realworld operation tested the joint training and collaboration skills of U.S. and Philippine forces, who worked together to resolve problems and provide aid as one

unit during the Philippine-led

"We have been working with [Marines] all throughout the year and for years before that," said Col. Miguel E. Okol, the director of the public information office, Philippine air force. "The Marine Corps is optimized similar to ours, very disciplined and hardworking and on behalf of our leadership we appreciate their help."



Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Ricardo R. Guzman

Combat Logistics Battalion 4 Marines load supplies onto an MV-22 Osprey assigned to the Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 261, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, in support of Operation Damayan. The 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade is being supported in its Philippine typhoon relief efforts by the Navy's George Washington Strike Group.



COMMANDING GENERAL Brig. Gen. James W. Bierman

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CHEVRON ~ FEATURE ~ NOVEMBER 15, 2013

Depot celebrates Marine Corps' 238th birthday with ceremonies



Brig. Gen. James W. Bierman, commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, cuts a slice from the Marine Corps birthday cake during the depot's Morning Colors Ceremony, Nov. 8. It is part of the Marine Corps birthday tradition to hold a ceremony in which the birthday cake is cut and the first piece is given to the guest of honor. The second piece is then given to the oldest Marine present and handed down to the youngest Marine present to signify the passing of knowledge and experience.



Depot Marines participate in the annual Period Uniform Pageant during the Morning Colors Ceremony, Nov. 8. During the pageant participating Marines dress to exhibit each of the uniform style used by the Corps since 1775. The event is part of Marine Corps birthday traditions.

STORY BY LANCE CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE Chevron staff

It doesn't matter where Marines are or what they are doing this time of year, there is always one thing that they are doing: celebrating the Marine Corps birthday.

Even though the birthday is on November 10, Marines from Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego participated in several ceremonies and events throughout the week celebrating the Corps' 238th birthday.

The first event was the annual Marine Corp Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremonies at the veterans hospital and Naval Medical Center San Diego Nov. 4. These ceremonies are held to help former Marines and those unable to attend ceremonies elsewhere to share in the tradition of remembering the birth of the Corps and honoring those who served throughout its rich history.

"This is my first birthday ceremony and it motivates me," said Pfc. Alexander A. Strickrodt, Wounded Warrior Battalion West. "Being a part of all of the history and traditions makes me feel connected to all of the Marines before me."

Another depot tradition honoring the birthday was the 2013 Marine Corps Birthday Dedication Run held from November 5 to 7. Marines

took turns running continuous one- mile laps around the area of Shepherd Field over two days. The event kicked off with Brig. Gen. James W. Bierman, commanding general of the depot and the Western Recruiting Region, running the first mile. Marines from depot units then took turns running the one-mile lap with the depot colors and handing the colors to the next runner in relay-style. The dedication run continued throughout the days and nights until it was time for the final three miles which were ran by all depot Marines in formation.

The annual depot Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony and Uniform Pageant was held Nov. 8 after Morning Colors. Family and friends of graduating new Marines, along with depot personnel, reflected on the 238-year history of the Corps as told through the parade of period uniforms from the Revolutionary War to today. The birthday cake was cut by Brig. Gen. Bierman and he presented a piece of cake to the oldest and youngest Marine present.

The week of celebrations concluded with the MCRD San Diego/WRR Marine Corps Birthday Ball held later that evening. The guest of honor for the ball was Maj. Gen. Steven. W. Busby, commanding general of the 3rd Marine Aircraft



A depot ceremonial detail brings a Marine Corps birthday cake out during a birthday celebration at the Naval Medical Center near Balboa Park in San Diego, Nov. 4. Marines from the depot held three different ceremonies during Marine Corps birthday week; one each for veterans, wounded warriors, and for Marines, their families and civilian Marines assigned to the depot.

Marines share 238th Birthday with past generations

STORY & PHOTO BY LANCE CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE Chevron staff

LA JOLLA, Calif. - Marines from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego held a special cake cutting ceremony for veterans at the Veterans Affairs Health Care System, Nov. 4.

Depot Marines brought the ceremony to the veterans hospital to celebrate the 238th Marine Corps birthday with veterans and disabled Marines in the local San Diego area.

The Marine Corps birthday is a tradition well celebrated by all Marines past and present. The actual birthdate of the Marine Corps is Nov. 10 while the week prior contains all of the events and ceremonies.

"The ceremony was great and it never gets old," said Sgt. Maj. Bill Paxton, Marine Corps veteran. "Oorah!" Veterans and civilians of

all ages and services attended the ceremony. The cake was marched out to a slowed down version of the Marine Corps hymn. Waiting for it at the end of the aisle was Jeffery Gerring, director of the Veteran Affairs Health Care System and next to him was the guest of honor, Brig. Gen. James W. Bierman, Commanding General, MCRD San Diego and the Western

Recruiting Region. The Marine Corps tradition is for the guest of honor to take the first piece of cake to show honor and respect to them for what they do to the Marine

The second piece goes to both the oldest and youngest Marines present, in this case that was

veteran (former sergeant) Curtis C. Harvey who is 79 and Sgt. Angus O. Powers who is 26. The passing of the cake symbolizes the passing of knowledge and experience from one generation

"I really couldn't believe that I was the oldest Marine present," said Harvey, a native of Hous-

to the next.

Sgt. Harvey served as an infantry man and a military police officer in the Marine Corps from Jan. 3, 1952 until Jan. 4,

"This is the time where we can all come together and celebrate the life of the Marine Corps and all the lives of the men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice," said

Although the Marine Corps birthday is something every Marine celebrates, it hasn't always been like that. The first formal celebration was not until 1925 and the cake cutting part of the ceremony was not entered into the drill manual until 1956 by Gen. Lamuel C. Shepard, 20th Commandant of the Marine

At the end of the ceremony, the cake was marched back ton, TX. "It was truly an honor." to the back of the room and it was cut into pieces by MCRD Marines, and served to all of the attendees.

> Veterans shared stories about their favorite memories when they were Marines, and stories of their encounters with young Marines.

"This is the only ceremony I go to," said Sgt. Frank C. Manthei, Marine Corps Veteran. "This ceremony makes me truly proud to be a Marine."



Sgt. Curtis C. Harvey, the oldest Marine present, enjoys the second piece of birthday cake at the Veteran Affairs Health Care System, Nov. 4. Harvey served three years in the Marine Corps as a infantryman and a military police officer.



Cpl. Crystal J. Druery

Depot Marines from various assigned units, participated in the last three miles of the 238-mile dedicated run aboard the depot, Nov. 7. The dedication run is a part of the Marine Corps birthday tradition here at the depot. Marines run a mile for every year the Corps has been in existance.

Marine follows dream, becomes drill instructor



Sgt. Adi Luminare, drill instructor, Platoon 2107, Company E, migrated from Romania with his family in 1991 to pursue better opportunities in the United States.

STORY & PHOTOS BY CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS Chevron staff

The United States is sometimes referred to as the land of opportunity. For Sgt. Adi Luminare, drill instructor, Platoon 2107, Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, migrating to the U.S. provided an opportunity to achieve his goals of becoming a drill instructor and having a better life.

"I always wanted to be a drill instructor ever since recruit training. Once I was promoted to sergeant, I volunteered," said Luminare. "In my mind if I became a drill instructor, I could help Marines with anything."

Luminare grew up in Bucharest, Romania, in a poor family. He learned to appreciate the simpler things in life because of his tough childhood. His father worked several jobs to provide for the family while his mother stayed at home. Sometimes working multiple jobs wasn't enough to support a family of eight.

"It was hard because food was scarce. You had to save and eat rations. Our desserts were soggy bread with sugar on it," said 28-year-old Luminare.
"We had to boil our water and then pour it on us in the tub to shower."

Despite all the hardships, his family remained close and in 1991, the Luminare family's luck changed. His cousins who lived in the U.S. entered and registered his family in a special sponsorship lottery. If chosen, all expenses were paid by the lottery for those members to move permanently to the U.S. The Luminare family was selected.

"I was only seven but I remember my parents were jumping for joy," said Luminare.
"People in Romania only dream of America."

Luminare remembered looking at all the signs in the airport and not knowing what any of it meant when he arrived Feb. 14, 1991. When people asked questions his family used signs to communicate.

Luminare had never attended school, but shortly after his arrival, he was placed in the second grade. He used phonics to learn English and adapted quickly to the American way of life.

After high school, he moved to North Carolina and started his own granite countertops business. He met some Marines at church and liked the way they presented themselves. Luminare decided to enlist in the Marine Corps.

"I started talking with the Marines and it was the dress blue uniform that got me," said Luminare. "I didn't even think about the other branches."

Luminare shipped off to recruit training Sept. 22, 2008. Once in recruit training, he was impressed with the drill instructors. Their demeanor and their knowledge of the Marine Corps enticed him to aspire and become one of the best himself.

He worked hard after recruit training in order to be promoted quickly. He wanted to apply to drill instructor school as soon as possible.

While deployed to Afghanistan in 2011, three years after he enlisted, he was selected to be meritoriously promoted to the rank of sergeant. He was promoted on March 2, 2012, making him eligible for drill instructor duty. Immediately after his promotion, he volunteered and achieved one of his life goals.

"I followed my dream, my plan and I made it. I did what I set out to do," said Luminare.

As a drill instructor, Luminare ensures his recruits learn to the best of their abilities. He pushes them to their limits.

"He is passionate about training recruits and genuinely cares," said Staff Sgt. Eric Flores, senior drill instructor, a Palmdale, Calif., native. "He is very demanding and expects the best from the recruits he is training."

According to Luminare, he will make the Marine Corps his career. He wants to pass on to the next generation of Marines his personal experiences, to lead by example and never give

up.
"I'm going to teach them to have morals and values," said Luminare. "Most importantly the lesson is that your family is always there to get through the tough times."

Col. Richard D. Hall

Parade Reviewing Officer

Col. Richard D. Hall joined the Marine Corps in November 1976 and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. After training he was transferred to the 2nd Marine Division. He finished his enlistment while serving with 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines and completing a Mediterranean deployment. He was honorably discharged in August 1980.

Enlisting a second time in July 1982, Hall served on the West Coast until being selected for the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program. He was transferred to the University of Washington where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and a commission as a second lieutenant.

He transferred to Quantico,

Va., where he attended The Basic School and the Infantry Officers Course before receiving orders to 1st Marine Division.

Hall reported to 1st Battalion, 1st Marines where, from 1988 to 1992, he served as a weapons platoon commander, rifle platoon commander, company executive officer, and battalion adjutant. After participating in Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm and two Western Pacific deployments, Hall was ordered to Marine Corps Security Force Company, Concord, Calif., where he served as a guard/security officer and executive officer.

In March 1994, Hall was again transferred to Quantico, where he served as commanding officer, Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion until August 1995.

Hall subsequently attended Command and Control Systems School and received follow-on orders to Twentynine Palms, Calif. There he served first as a battalion logistics officer, and then as commanding officer, Company F, 7th Battalion, 7th Marines.

In June 1998, Hall transferred back to Quantico, where he served as the branch head of science and technology for the Office of Science and Innovation at Marine Corps Combat Deployment Command.

From 1999 to 2001, Hall served as the commanding officer, Combat Instructor Company, Instructor Battalion at The Basic School. He then attended Command and Staff College, graduating with distinction. He followed by serving as the executive officer for 1st Battalion, 7th Marines during its deployment to Iraq in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom in January 2003.

Upon returning from Iraq in October 2003, Hall transferred to the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command where he served as the future plans officer. He subsequently served as the executive officer, 7th Marine Regiment until transferring to Fort Benning, Ga., in June 2005 where he served as the commanding officer of the Marine Detachment.

In 2007, Hall returned to Twentynine Palms, serving initially at Tactical Training Exercise Control Group, then assuming the duties of commanding officer, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, deploying to Afghanistan from March to December 2008.

In June 2009, Hall attended the Naval War College in Newport Rhode Island, graduating with distinction and as the honor graduate. He most recently served as the chief of the Joint Training Branch, Joint and Coalition Warfighting, J7, Joint Staff in Suffolk, Va.

Hall's personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (second award), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V" (third award), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (second award), the Combat Action Ribbon (third award), the Good Conduct Medal (third award), and the Army's Order of Saint Maurice.





Lance Cpl. J. C. Rice Seattle Recruited by Sgt. C. M. Casillas

Lance Cpl. M. J. Braun Omaha, Neb. Recruited by Staff Sgt. W. Hardy IV

Pfc. J. D. Parker Chicago Recruited by Sgt. L. W. Pagen Jr.

Pfc. J. C. Suda Fargo, N. D. Recruited by Sat. A. R. Hamilton

Pfc. E. A. Cadena Chicago Recruited by Sgt. J. R. Thomas

Pfc. A. D. Milano San Francisco Recruited by

Pvt. N. S. Jenson Tuscola, Mich. Marksman Instructor Sgt. A. Pardes

HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. E. W. Williams Albuquerque, N. M. Recruited by Staff Sgt. M. R. Fuller



OMPANY ECHO

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



COMPANY E

Commanding Officer Capt. J. R. Sherwood Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. P. A. Botello

SERIES 2101

Series Commander Capt. D. Kleppe Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. D. Mast

PLATOON 2101

Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. S. M. Stallings **Drill Instructors** Staff Sgt. S. M. Perry Sgt. B. M. Shaughnessy Sgt. K. M. Solomita Sgt. R. O. Wilson

PLATOON 2102

Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. M. A. Brown Drill instructors Staff Sgt. V. R. Ervin Staff Sgt. A. M. Turiano Staff Sgt. L. S. Vickers

PLATOON 2103

Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. M. P. DiMauro Drill instructors Sgt. S. R. Addis Sgt. J. R. Forkner Sgt. J. J. Rodriguez Sgt. J. A. Tatenco

SERIES 2105 Series Commander Capt. M. H. Manson Chief Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. P. D. Mason

PLATOON 2105

Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. J. Montalvo **Drill Instructors** Sgt. C. O. Rodriguez Sgt. M. A. Cajina Sgt. J. P. Bednarik

PLATOON 2106

Senior Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. G. F. Guerrero **Drill Instructors** Gunnery Sgt. C. A. Barton Gunnery Sgt. C. B. Milam Staff Sgt. C. P. Lewis Sgt. C. A. Asencio

PLATOON 2107

Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. E. Flores **Drill Instructors** Staff Sgt. J. W. Cline Staff Sgt. J. R. Orduna Sgt. J. A. George Sgt. A. Luminare

Pvt. X. D. Gaudig

Pvt. Z. K. Gaudig

Pvt. T. P. Gentry

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 2101 Pfc. D. P. Curtis Pvt. Z. N. Daniel Pfc. D. T. Davis Pvt. S. S. Davis Pvt. M. A. Deja Pfc. K. J. Elliott Pvt. A. L. Funk Pfc. L. C. Emejuobi Pvt. J. S. Gardner Pvt. M. A. Gemme Pvt. A. Ghosh Pfc. J. M. Gilbert Pfc. J. B. Gillen Pfc. A. Gonzalez Pvt. T. A. Graham Pfc. T. V. Harding Pvt. D. L. Hardy Pvt. C. A. Harris Pvt. B. D. Hearrell Pvt. K. J. Heinze Pfc. A. J. Helm *Pfc. C. W. Highland Pvt. J. D. Hinson Pvt. N. A. Hopkins Pvt. G. Hua Pvt. H. A. Hunt Pvt. R. J. Jasielec Pvt. N. S. Jensen Pvt. J. W. Johnson *Pfc. J. D. Jones Pvt. B. E. Kelso Pvt. T. S. Klug Pfc. B. M. League Pvt. L. M. Lewis Pvt. L. E. Lineberry Pfc. N. P. Loiselle Pvt. D. Lopez Pfc. A. S. Lowthian Pvt. J. T. MacCaughan Pvt. W. V. Marlatt II

Pfc. D. J. McGhee

Pvt. D. S. McLaren

Pvt. A. T. Metzger

Pfc. J. A. Miranda

Pvt. S. L. Morales

Pfc. S. H. Naqvi

Pvt M R Nave

Pfc. M. D. Nelson

Pvt. K. O. Osborn

Pvt. C. D. Pawlak

*Pfc. Z. C. Phillips

*Pfc. S. J. Reese

Pfc. A. T. Reina

Pfc. A. S. Robl

Pvt. E. H. Rocha

Pvt. N. S. Reyes

Pfc. M. T. Roberts

Pfc. J. D. Parker

Pvt. B. L. Peyer

Pvt. A. S. Miles

Pvt. J. P. Miller

Pfc. R. E. Rodriguez Pvt. M. L. Rodriguez Pvt. A. J. Ross Pvt. J. L. Rucker-Eason Pfc. E. U. Ruvalcaba Pvt. L. Salinas Pvt. W. P. Santos Pvt. C. R. Schuerman Pvt. A. J. Schulz Pvt. J. R. Siford Pvt. R. Silva Jr. Pvt. T. Sisomphan Pvt. B. S. Smith Pvt. C. W. Spencer-Pennington Pfc. R. D. Swietanski Pvt. N. R. Tiedemann *Pfc. J. R. Torres Pfc. R. C. Wright III PLATOON 2102 Pvt. Q. R. Alberda Pvt. H. R. Berg

Pvt. A. W. Bertram Pvt. K. R. Bousquet Pvt. C. A. Brown Pvt. A. Bueno Pvt. C. Z. Burk Pfc. M. D. Colon Pvt. D. G. Correa Pvt. I. R. Cuellar Pfc. C. J. Dill Pfc. T. G. Dyer Pvt. L. A. Edwards Pvt. F. Escalante Pvt. M. Estrada-Maldonado Pfc. N. T. Evans Pvt. M. J. Everett Pfc. K. A. Foote Pfc. T. D. Glaszczak Pfc. J. B. Goodfellow Pvt. D. R. Gray Pvt. A. J. Hoem *Pfc. D. S. Hoppe Pvt. Z. A. Houim Pvt. A. K. Keeler Pvt. D. M. Kjera Pfc. J. P. Madrid Pvt A P Martinez *Pfc. A. Martinez *Pfc. A. E. Mejia

Pvt. J. J. Michel-Saray

Pvt. J. C. Nunez-Espinoza

Pvt. B. A. Moorhead

Pvt. E. Navarro

Pvt. V. Nevarez

Pvt. T. M. Nowak

Pvt. B. J. Pearson

Pvt. C. M. Pike

Pvt. S. Pompa

Pfc. J. A. Rabago

Pvt. B. F. Renteria Pvt. L. E. Rodriguez Pvt. D. L. Sales Pfc. A. J. Scharnhorst Pvt. M. F. Schmaling Pvt. T. M. Schoenborn *Pfc. K. S. Serra Pvt. B. E. Sherman Pvt. G. G. Silva Jr. Pvt. J. N. Simpson Pfc. I. Solis-Valencia Pvt. B. M. Stewart Pvt. B. E. Stratton Pvt. E. D. Stricklin Pfc. J. C. Suda Pfc. T. J. Sutton Pfc. E. V. Tomista *Pfc. N. M. Torno Pfc. J. A. Valdez Pvt. N. T. Vance Pvt. C. J. Vasquez-Gonzalez Pfc. I. Vazquez-Ramirez Pvt. S. Villagomez-Aquilera *Pfc. C. A. Villanueva Pvt. J. V. Vivar Pvt. M. R. Walters Pvt. T. J. Ward Pvt. D. P. Waxler Pvt. G. J. Weaver Pvt. N. T. Week Pvt. K. A. Wells Pvt. J. D. Wilson Pvt. C. B. Witmer Pfc. C. E. Wood Pvt. I. W. Woods-Martin Pvt. B. M. Worford

PLATOON 2103

Pvt. C. A. Zen

Pvt. B. C. Xaypanya

Pvt. C. Appleberry Pvt. R. Arnold Pvt. D. Arredondo Pvt. C. L. Arrington Pvt. R. Balbuena *Pvt. M. D. Baldwin Pvt. K. G. Beard Pvt. T. J. Blissett Pvt. J.J. Bohannon Pvt. J. A. Bohler Pvt. A. M. Bollinger Pvt. E. B. Boyd Pvt. C. L. Burback Pvt. J. G. Claire Pvt. B. J. Clearly Pvt. P. J. Crochet Pvt. J. G. Cruz-Pena Pvt. T. A. Currier Pvt. P. K. Darling Pvt. G. R. Davis

Pvt. S. R. Davis Pvt. C. De La Trinidad Pvt. R. J. DeRutte Pvt. I. A. Diaz Pvt. B.S. Dickinson Pvt. T. A. Doughty Pvt. T. B. Dowe Pvt. J. L. Dupree Pvt. R. M. Easterling Pvt. K. M. Eldridge Pvt. R. L. Fahringer Pvt. E. A. Galvan Pvt. B. W. Garcia Pvt. R. Garcia-Galvan Pvt. J. H. Glazer *Pvt. A. K. Goff Pvt. M. C. Gresham Pvt. E. V. Guijarro Pvt. M. V Guting Pvt. W. N. Hamby Pvt. J.T. Hart Pvt. J. D. Hendrickson Pvt. B. A. Hill *Pvt. M. D. Hudson Pvt. R. D. Huerta Pvt. J. D. Johnson Pvt. J. W. Kmiecik Pvt. J. A. Koester Pvt. T. A. Lafountain-Macasocol Pvt. C. R. Landin Pvt. J. Lin Pvt. A. Lope Pvt. O. Luna Pvt. J. A. Marquez Pvt. J. E. Marshall *Pvt. O. Martinez Pvt. W. J. McAllister Pvt. C. W. McCallister Pvt. Z. J. McDaniel Pvt. R. S. McQuilken *Pvt G F Mellena Pvt. R. A. Mullinax *Pvt. J. D. Negrete Pvt. C. K. Norrell Pvt. Z. L. Nowak Pvt. J. E. Ovalle Pvt. G. M. Pawlik Pvt. J. J. Perales Pvt. B. T. Pleasant Pvt. D. D Ramirez

Pvt. D. Reyes

*Lance Cpl. J. C. Rice

Pvt. D. C. Rodehan

Pvt. D. A. Rodriguez

Pvt. H. A. Rodriguez

Pvt. L. S. Rodriguez

Pvt. S. A. Rodriguez

Pvt. W. A. Roe

Pvt. E. J. Rose

Pvt. J. D. Sanders

Pvt. J. M. Santone

Pvt. E. Santoya Pvt. A. R. Savage Pvt. C. J. Savoey

PLATOON 2105

Pfc. C. Delgado Jr.

Pvt. A. Delgado Jr.

Pvt. D. A. Earney

Pvt. J. D. Eeckhout

Pfc. F. A. Emmolo

Pvt. A. M. Espinoza

Pfc. W. R. Farmer

Pvt. R. L. Forbis Jr.

Pvt. M. T. Geiger

*Pfc. J. L. Genalo

Pvt. W. A. Gonzalez

Pvt. R. Guevara-Medina

Pfc. C. D. Gregory

Pvt. A. T. Harden

Pvt. J. J. Harvev

Pvt. K. A. Herrick

Pvt. P. A. Hodnett

Pfc. J. D. Hoffman

Pfc. S. G. Hurley

Pvt. P. D. Imrie

Pvt. J. R. Inlow

Pvt. J. T. Jester

Pvt. J. D. Jackson

Pvt. B. P. Jimenez

Pfc. K. A. Johnson

Pvt. J. P. Keasler

Pfc. T. Z. Kemper

Pvt. B. R. Hoffmeyer

Pvt I G Harnisch

Pvt. R. Lopez Jr. Pfc. J. A. Lozano Pfc. Z. M. Aquilar Pfc. D. C. Majors Pvt. M. P. Ashe Pvt. D. M. McManus Pvt. P. D. Baginski Pvt. V. M. Melara Pvt. J. S. Baker Pfc. J. C. Mera-Perez Pfc. J. R. Barks Pvt. P. J. Mercader Pvt. C. M. Barnett Pvt. N. P. Metzger Pvt. A. M. Barton Pfc. T. B. Miller Pvt. A. A. Becerra Pvt. C. A. Miller Pvt. M. M. Benally Pvt. J. Montiel-Santander Pvt. N. J. Black Pvt. J. A. Nolte Pvt. A. D. Norman Pvt. J. A. Bocanegra Pvt. S. L. Bohling Pvt. M. Ochoa Pvt. A. M. Borrego Jr Pvt. J. H. Ohmes *Lance Cpl. M. J. Braun *Pfc. B. T. Ontiveros Pfc. A. J. Bravo Pfc. Y. Ortiz-Perez Pvt. S. A. Brooks Pvt. C. J. Peters Pvt. C. W. Pfaff Pvt. J. M. Brown *Pfc. Z. E. Bruhy *Pfc. D. A. Preslar Pfc. J. M. Canady Pfc. S. Quach Pvt. A. R. Canez Pvt. J. M. Rabev Pvt. J. J. Caron Pvt. E. F. Ramirez Pvt. W. D. Casey Pvt. M. Ramirez Pvt. E. L. Chavez Pvt. R. M. Cop **PLATOON 2106** Pvt. A. E. Cuveillier *Pfc. A. A. Alexander Pvt. D. A. Dailev *Pfc. D. G. Dean Pfc. J. M. De La Rosa

Pvt. T. R. Adams

Pvt. P. J. Kinnerk

Pfc. C. B. Kohutek

Pvt. E. Liborio

Pfc. Z. A. Alvidrez Pvt. R. M. Anaya Pvt. D. J. Baker Pvt. M. Bass Jr. Pvt. G. A. Betancourth Pvt J J Birnie Pvt. I. M. Brown Pvt. C. T. Burley Pvt. R. R. Cabrera Pfc. E. A. Cadena *Pfc. A. J. Castillo Pfc. D. C. Cathcart Pfc. A. R. Chilson Pfc. J. J. Cole Pvt. M. G. Colobong Pvt. R. L. Contreras Pvt. E. Cortes Pfc. B. L. Cross Pvt. D. J. Crow Pvt. H. Demirjian *Pfc. A. L. Dickert Pfc. D. J. Doolev Pvt. K. S. Dutcher Pvt. D. M. Dykes Pvt. Z. D. Ellsworth Pvt. D. J. Emery Pvt. J. Espinoza

Pvt. J. M. Flores

Pvt. J. B. Freeman

Pvt. C. Flores

Pfc. A. R. Gatto

*Pfc. S. W. Gowen Pvt. J. M. Griesenauer Pvt. A. L. Gutierrez Pfc. J. L. Hall Pvt. S. A. Hamilton Pfc. R. U. Hendrix Pvt. A. Hernandez Pvt. A. L. Huntsman Pvt. D. Jeardoe Pvt. H. H. Keith III Pfc. C. A. King Pvt. R. W. Leforce Jr. Pvt. J. D. Legarda Pvt. A. F. Liilii Pvt. J. Limas Pvt. C. R. Miller *Pfc. M. R. Moore Pvt. A. K. Nevius Pfc. S. J. Olmos Pvt. A. G. Olsen Pvt. Z. S. Orozco Pfc. J. J. Park Pvt. S. J. Petersen Pfc. I. B. Phifer Pfc. J. K. Plemer Pvt. V. A. Prashasouk Pvt B. Ratzlaff Pvt. N. R. Richardson Pvt. O. Rodriguez Pfc. J. J. Romero Pvt. S. Sanchez Pvt. G. Sanchez Jr. Pvt. D. G. Shepherd Pvt. L. G. Sotelo Pvt. T. W. Sterling Pfc. J. S. Taua Pvt. D. W. Tietjens Pfc. G. Torres Jr Pfc. T. G. Valenzuela Pvt. G. Vardanyan Pvt. W. O. Vidrio Pfc. J. A. Vought Pvt. T. C. Watson Pvt. A. T. Wenzlick

PLATOON 2107

Pvt. J. R. Acevedo Jr. *Pfc. A. Aguilar-Aguilar *Pfc. A. A. Alvarez Pvt. C. L. Ashby Pvt. D. J. Baker Pvt. J. T. Beal Pfc. S. D. Biever Pfc. T. E. Breedlove Pfc. J. Canchola Pfc. K. L. Charles Pvt. K. L. Curry

Recruits tested on basic Marine skills

STORY & PHOTOS BY CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS Chevron staff

Recruit Training Battalion, applied their basic Marine Corps knowledge during

their practical examination aboard the depot, Nov. 5.

The examination is a graduation requirement.

"It gives them the basic knowledge of the necessary skills used in the Marine Corps," said Staff Sgt. Daniel C. Rivera, drill instruc-

tor, Platoon 3207. "We break it down for them so they are able to comprehend everything they have to learn."

Recruits began by taking a written exam. The exam consists of 100 multiple choice questions that includes history, uniform

wear and Uniform Code of Military Justice regulations.

Then, recruits moved on to recognition quiz. Posters with every rank, uniform and rifle parts were displayed along with five magnets. Each magnet has a different item written on it. The recruits had to correctly match the magnet to the image on the poster.

Afterward, recruits performed combat first aid on a simulated casualty. Recruits had to diagnose the appropriate injury to the casualty. There were three types of injuries including chest wound, open fracture and chemical burn.

Recruits then moved on to the assembly and disassembly of the M16-A4 service rifle. Recruits were handed a disassembled weapon and then had to put it together. At the end, they performed a weapon's function check to ensure the weapon could fire properly.

"I wasn't really thinking. We have done it so many times that it becomes muscle memory," said 18-year-old Recruit Andrew V. Culp, Plt. 3205.

For the last part of the test, recruiits perform a simulated check-in procedure. At every new unit, Marines report for duty to their first segeant in their Service-A uniform.

For most recruits, combat first aid proved the biggest challenge because while they treated the patient they also to recruits talk to the simulated victim to help prevent the victim from going into shock.

"For combat scenarios you have to remember a lot of details and I didn't want to miss any of that. I didn't want to fail," said Culp, an Albuquerque, N.M., native. Drill instructors helped recruits instilling confidence in their abilities.

"If they stay collected, focused and minimize their mistakes they will do well," said Rivera an Oxnard, Calif., native. "I tell them to relax, that way they can be smooth and fast at the same time."

Recruits who failed risked being dropped to the next training company. However, they were given another opportunity to remediate.

For Co. I, the practical examination marked the completion of the last academic hurdle for recruits. Now, they must complete the Crucible and earn the title Marine to become part of the history and tradition of the Corps.

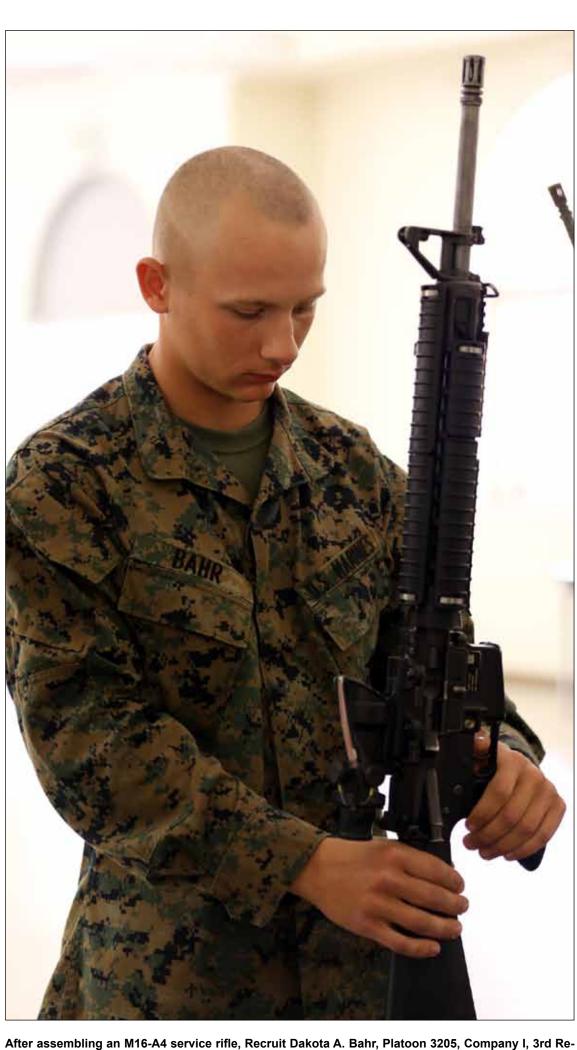
"I want to be part of that long tradition," said Culp. "It starts by knowing our history and understanding where we come from and what we do."



Recruit Martin L. Ramirez, Platoon 3206, matches a magnet to the appropriate uniform during the practical application examination. Marines must know the components and regulations of each uniform to appropriately wear it.



Recruit Connor J. Carroll, Platoon 3205, treats a simulated chess wound during the practical application test. To help keep the test realistic, recruits talk to the simulated victim to prevent him from going into shock.



cruit Training Battalion, performs a functions check to ensure his rifle properly fires during the practical examination aboard the depot, Nov. 5.

CON'T FROM ◀ 7

Pvt. P. B. Dean-Snodgrass Pvt. W. M. Duffey Pfc. C. N. Foster Pvt. S. V. Foster Pvt. Z. C. Gustin *Pfc. L. M. Hartz Pfc. P. H. Hetzner Pvt. R. J. Hibdon Pfc. J. R. Kane Pvt. A. F. Larraza Pvt. S. M. Laskowski Pfc. I. S. Lester Pvt. A. R. Macklin Pfc. J. R. Marshall Pvt. J. A. McKown Pfc. A. D. Milano *Pfc. L. E. Montes Pvt. R. C. Northcott Pvt. C. J. Pallace Pvt. J. D. Peterson Pfc. A. K. Phelps Pfc. P. J. Renta Pfc. G. Resendiz Jr. Pvt. O. E. Reyes
Pvt. R. M. Rivas
Pvt. S. M. Roberts
Pfc. D. J. Rodriguez
Pvt. H. S. Rodriguez
Pvt. N. I. Rodriguez
Pvt. D. E. Roskop
Pvt. D. A. Ruark
Pvt. J. L. Salinas Jr.
Pvt. N. R. Salvacion
Pfc. R. R. Samsel
Pvt. M. Z. Scott
Pvt. F. J. Selvas

Pfc. A. F. Serrano
Pvt. J. R. Shane-Berger
Pvt. D. C. Shankle
Pvt. B. L. Sharp
Pvt. E. H. Shireman
Pvt. C. D. Slone
Pfc. M. J. Snow
Pvt. J. S. Soto
Pfc. S. P. Sowul
Pfc. J. Story
Pfc. J. L. Straus
Pfc. A. R. Tellez
Pfc. B. C. Torres

Pvt. E. Torres
Pvt. C. D. Tucker
Pvt. C. D. Tyler
Pfc. C. Valera
Pvt. J. Vallin
Pvt. J. J. Van Westen
Pfc. R. J. Varetoni
Pvt. J. A. Vargas
Pfc. J. W. Vokt
Pvt. J. D. Weary Jr.
Pvt. M. Weathers

Pvt. C. J. Wildfong

Pfc. B. M. Wille

Pfc. E. W. Williams
Pvt. J. E. Williams
Pfc. M. G. Williams
Pvt. R. C. Wilson
Pvt. S. M. Witherow
Pvt. T. W. Yaste
*Pfc. M. B. Young Jr.
Pfc. A. T. Yzquierdo
*Pfc. R. Zainos-Torres