Recruit continues father's legacy in the Corps Pg 6

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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"Where Marines Are Made"

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2014

Company B stands tall in Company Commander's Inspection

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

Recruits of Bravo Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, stood tall with confidence in a formation during a Company Commander's Inspection aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 9.

The purpose of the inspection is to give the company commander an opportunity to test his recruits on their knowledge, while also reviewing their uniforms, bearing, confidence and weapons maintenance. The commander also uses this time to ensure each recruit has met all the basic requirements to graduate recruit training.

The commander approached each recruit, signaling the potential new Marine to conduct rifle manual before passing his weapon to the company commander for a weapon maintenance inspection. While the weapon was being checked for cleanliness, the recruit reported to the commander by stating his rank, name, hometown and military occupation specialty. After reporting in, the company commander asked the recruit various questions regarding Marine Corps knowledge, history, uni-



Recruit Blake J. Alewelt, Platoon 1024, Bravo Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, a native of Springfield, Ill., stands in formation while being inspected during the Company Commander's Inspection aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 9.

command.

"The inspection consists of the company commander re-

form regulations and the chain of viewing his recruits and seeing their progress after completing finals week, which includes final drill and the final PFT," said Sgt.

Richard Perryman, drill instructor, Platoon 1027. "There's a huge difference from the initial Senior Drill Instructors Inspection to

the Company Commander's Inspection. The Marines are a lot

see INSPECTION 2



Hotel Company recruits climb over bars on the depot's obstacle course June 5. Drill instructors made sure all recruits finished every exercise to the best of their abilities.

Obstacle Course challenges recruits

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

Typically during a workout there is the luxury of a break or the option to continue another day. However, this was not the case for the recruits conducting the obstacle course as they became fatigued. The more tired they became, the harder their drill instructors pushed them.

Recruits of Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, conducted their first obstacle course at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 5.

The event required recruits to climb over bars, logs and up a rope approximately 20 feet high. At the conclusion of the course, the recruits finished the workout conducting combat carries.

see OBSTACLE 2

Zero tolerance substance abuse policy emphasized

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

With the advent of new drugs tempting Marines every day, Marine Corps leadership believes it paramount to stress the importance of the institutions zero tolerance substance abuse policy.

To do this, recruits of Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, attended a class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 5 to learn more about the dangers of illegal substances.

During the class, the recruits were taught about different illegal narcotics and the consequences for violating the substance abuse policy.

Still fairly new to recruit training, the recruits learned what their expectations will be once they earn the title Ma-

"Recruits have to learn to live the lifestyle as a Marine before the can become one," said Sgt. Gerardo Silva Jr., drill instructor, Platoon 2163. "The Corps isn't going to tolerate substance abuse, because we hold a higher standard than that."

After recruits received the class regarding common illegal narcotics, they will be more informed about what drugs they may encounter, explained Silva, a Moreno Valley, Calif., native.

"Marines set the bar high. If I want to be a well-rounded Marine Corps warrior, then I have to have a focused mind set at all times," said Recruit Kendrick O. Hill, a Dallas native. "I feel the class has made me more aware of what to watch out for and stay away from.

I know the Marine Corps will not tolerate drugs or the abuse of any substance, and that's the main message they're trying to get across to us in the class."

The class was taught by a substance abuse counselor who works at the counseling center aboard the depot.

The center provides education to Marines and outreach services such as substance abuse awareness, prevention and direct care to those in



Bravo Company recruits stand in formation while waiting to be inspected during the Company Commander's Inspection. As the commander approaches, each recruit begins the rifle manual exercise before passing over his weapon for a maintenance inspection.

INSPECTION 1

more confident in themselves."

Inspections are common throughout recruit training. First the recruits completed a Senior Drill Instructor Inspection during the third week of training, which better prepared them for the Company Commander's Inspection during the tenth week. After the Crucible, the culminating event of recruit training, is completed they prepare for the Battalion Commander's Inspection during the twelfth week of their training.

"I felt confident, but you can't help but feel nervous when you're going through the inspection," said Recruit Taylor B. Morgan, Platoon 1026. "Some of us had a difficult time having the company commander standing in front of us asking several questions, but overall I think we did a good job with the inspection."

During the inspection, Morgan, a Lodi, Calif., native, explained he focused on staying calm, holding his bearing and sounding off when he answered the commanding officer.

OBSTACLE 1

During the last portion, some recruits dropped their partners off their backs and appeared to be unsure whether they could finish

A crowd of drill instructors quickly surrounded the struggling recruits, and during a pause in between their booming commands, one drill instructor yelled, "You going to quit for the rest of your life? Pick him up!"

Many recruits got the message loud and clear, and despite their fatigue, pushed through to finish their exercise.

Recruit Ryan R. Peterfeso, drill instructor, Platoon 2176, described the experience as a wake-up call to what will be expected in recruit training.

"The initial shock was like cold water on the face, but we're getting better at stressful situations," said Peterfeso. "I've realized I have to step my game up, and push myself physically."

Although this challenge occurred on just their eighth day of training, the recruits seemed to understand why their drill instructors were pushing them to finish.

"They're trying to prepare us for combat scenarios," said Peterfeso, a Woodbury, Minn., native. "Their yelling motivates us to move faster. Our goal is to become Marines, and the only way to get there is to give everything you have."

Sergeant Julian Gomez, Platoon 2161, explained ordering recruits to push through exercises translates to instant obedience to orders and is an important part of a process toward instilling a disciplined mindset in the recruits.

"It all starts in first phase, and then that effort and discipline carries over into other phases," said Gomez. "This is their only boot camp, and it is about giving them what they came here for and pushing them through that pain."



Hotel Company recruits navigate the log challenge on the depot's obstacle course. Recruits were allowed to use various methods to finish each exercise.

BRIEFS

MCRD chapel closure

The chapel will be closed for renovations from June 16 until July 25.

During the project Sunday Lutheran services will join the Protestant service in the Base Theater auditorium at 8:30 a.m. Catholic Mass will be held in the Bride Room next to the Chapel on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11:45 a.m.

For information contact Anna Torres, administrative support assistant for Religious Ministries at (619) 524-8820.

Father's Day Barbecue Buffet

There will be a Father's Day Barbecue Buffet at the Bayview Restaurant June 15, from 11 a.m., until 2 p.m.

The menu will include barbecued hamburgers, hot dogs, Italian Sausages & chicken, with Boston baked beans and ice cream bars.

Cost is: \$14.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children ages 5 to 11. Children under 5 eat free.

For reservations call (619) 725-6211 or 6478. For more information call (619) 524-5732/5728/5301, or contact Perlita Rodriguez via e-mail at perlita.rodriguez@usmc.mil, or visit www.mccsmcrd.com.

Single Marine Program movie night

The Single Marine Program sponsors Barracks Movie Night under the stars June 20, from 6 until 10 p.m.

Enjoy popcorn, cotton candy and beverages while watching a double feature that kicks off with "Scary Movie 3.

It's at the outdoor theater in front of Duncan Hall.

Car Show on the Bay

The depot will sponsor Car Show on the Bay June 22, from 11 a.m., until 3 p.m., at the new waterfront location on the Bayview Marina lawn.

There will be live entertainment, door prizes, awards, food and activities

For more information call (619) 725-6484. Or call (619) 524-5732/5728/5301, or contact Perlita Rodriguez via e-mail at perlita. rodriguez@usmc.mil, or visit www. mccsmcrd.com.

Freedom Run

The depot will sponsor a 5K Freedom Run/1 Mile Walk on June 27, starting from the Bay View Marina at 1 p.m.

A trip to Vegas

The Single Marine Programs is sponsoring a trip to Las Vegas July 2 through 5.

Participants will travel in two 12-passenger vans and stay at the Quad Hotel across the Strip from Caesar's Palace. Cost is \$50 for travel and lodging. Each person will cover food and entertainment expenses out of pocket.

There are only 20 places available. Participants must be 21 or older, and must sign-up and pay on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information or to sign up, contact Kelley Sitar at (619) 524-5655, or via e-mail at sitark@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.



Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 271 transport HESCO, a rapidly deployable barrier system, to a HESCO bunker during the squadron's field exercise at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 30. A HESCO bunker is a protective barrier that provides the company with defense capabilities during enemy attacks. The unit's mission is to provide ground support assets to fixed wing components with the aviation combat element.

MWSS-271 completes field exercise at Camp Lejeune

STORY & PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. UNIQUE B. Roberts Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. -

More than 100 Marines with Engineer Company, Marine Wing Support Squadron 271, participated in a field exercise here May 27 through June 2.

The unit's mission is to provide aviation ground support assets to fixed-wing components of an aviation combat element and Marine air control groups.

The exercise was conducted to enhance the experience of junior Marines and expand their knowledge by teaching them the fundamentals of their military occupational specialty, which ensures the company is prepared to accomplish tasked missions.

"The purpose of this field training exercise is to focus our training to encompass those vital tasks that are necessary to achieve proficiency in survivability and force protection," said Master Sgt. Kent Corbett, the engineer company operation chief with the squadron.

The Marines were tasked with demolition, providing hygiene and power needs, conducting route reconnaissance, and building timber framed shelters, HESCO bunkers and tank ditches.

Marines depend on each other to complete a mission, which builds camaraderie and strengthens unit cohesion, according to Corbett.

Each individual Marine played a key role in providing key assets to support the mission. During the exercise, the water support technicians purified almost 2,500 gallons of water a day for the Marines to use for hygiene, cooking and hydration.

"Out here we are purifying water using our light weight water purifying system," said Lance Cpl. Quentin J. Stallings, a water support technician with MWSS-271. "We pull the water from the ocean that contains nondrinkable materials, and we turn it into water that's safe for drinking so the Marines can complete what they have to do.'

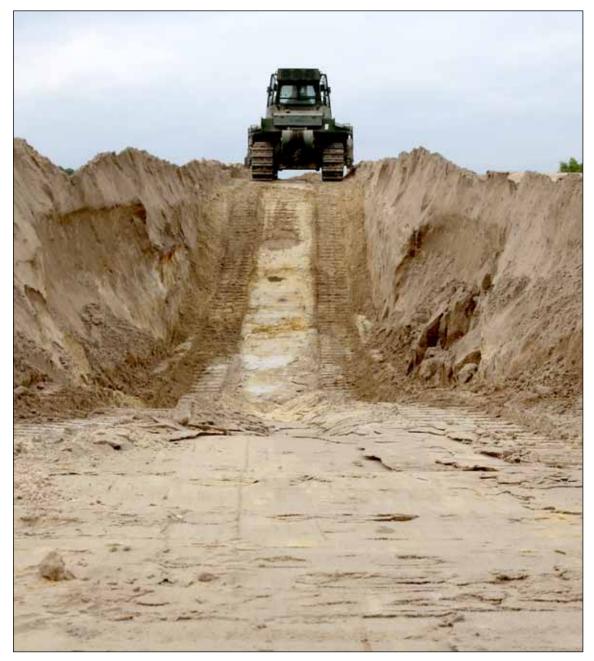
The water support technicians with the squadron use the Tactical Water Purification System to meet water needs. The system includes a high pressure pump, a reverse osmosis module, cartridge filtration and a raw water intake system that works together to ensure Marines have a safe, usable supply of water to support their mission.

The heavy equipment operators, drafter and surveyors and heavy equipment mechanics worked to complete a HESCO bunker, a guard post and tank ditch that provide the company with defense capabilities during enemy attacks.

Lance Cpl. Marcus D. Wuori, a drafter and surveyor with MWSS-271, assisted in building the HESCO bunker by creating a building plan for the bunker and surveying the site.

The training provided the Marines with an opportunity to actually put into practice what they have been trained in their MOS to do, according to Wuori.

'This is just training to build (the HESCO bunker)," said Wuori. "We are going to test its defenses when we conduct both demolition and



Heavy equipment operators, combat engineers and heavy equipment mechanics build a tank ditch using a MCT 850J bulldozer, during a company field exercise at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 30. A tank ditch is a protective measure used to prevent tanks from being seen when firing.

.50 caliber machine gun ranges later in the exercise."

As the day came to a close, the Marines looked on all that they accomplished and felt

great pride in the work that had been done, according to Wuori.

"The company comes out here, we work, learn and strengthen, not just the unit, but ourselves and in turn, the squadron is successful and that's what's it all about strengthening the Corps," said Wuoir.



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Rappel tower

Big challenge in recruit training

Story & Photos by Sgt. Walter D. Marino II Chevron staff

Standing at the top of a 60-foot tower can be intimidating, but trusting just a single rope and one person to assist you down over the edge can be completely frightening.

Recruits of Lima Company rappelled down the 60-foot tower at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 6, and although some recruits were unfazed by the height, there were others who were frozen

Recruit David AlvarezSanchez, Platoon 3274, said he is terrified of heights because when he was nine, he was pushed off a cliff and into the ocean.

AlvarezSanchez explained he gets flashbacks of the traumatic event every time he encounters heights.

The 21-year-old said his heart began to pound and his breathing quickened as he waited to rappel down the tower, but there was one thing that kept him from quitting.

"Making my little brother proud was my motivation," said the Las Vegas native. "Even though I was scared for my life, I thought of my little brother and how he would be disappointed in me. I didn't want to fail."

AlvarezSanches said half way up the tower he was able to regain composure. He said it helped that the supervising drill instructors tried to keep the recruits relaxed.

The tower has a platform where the

recruits are staged as they wait their turn to go to the top. Sgt. Bengamin G. Laca, drill instructor, Platoon 3242, used this area to remind the recruits they were safe and to ensure they did not have problems finishing the exercise.

AlvarezSanches said he was scared of falling as he positioned his heels at the edge of the tower, but somehow he managed to rappel down.

When he reached the bottom he said he felt as though he accomplished a great feat.

"It was one the scariest things I've ever done," said AlvarezSanches. "I'm really, really proud that I went down the tower. My senior drill instructor told me in order to completely get over my fear I have to do it again, so I plan on doing it again one day."



makes his way to the top of the depot's 60-foot rappel tower. Once at the top, recruits were checked for proper gear placement and descended the tower at the end of a rope.



Recruit David AlvarezSanchez, Platoon 3274, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, a native of Las Vegas, Nev., waits for his turn during a rappelling exercise at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 6. Prior to the training, recruits were given a class on the proper techniques needed for rappelling.



suspension training monitored the exercise from the top and bottom of the tower.



Recruit David Alvarez-Sanchez, Platoon 3274, Lima Company, puts on protective gloves while getting ready to rappel from the top of the depot's 60-foot tower.

Two Lima Company recruits begin their journey down the depot's 60-foot rappel tower while others await their opprotunity at the bottom. Drill Recruit Training Battalion, fast rope down the backside of the depot's rappel tower. Marines with static rope instructors were posted at the bottom, middle and top of the tower to ensure safety throughout the exercise

Sergeant major's son joins the Marine Corps

STORY & PHOTOS BY CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE Chevron staff

Every recruit has his own personal reason for joining the Marine Corps. For one recruit, it was to continue his father's legacy.

Lance Cpl. Lawrence A. Liechty, Platoon 2127, Fox Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, knew he had large shoes to fill when he enlisted in the Marine Corps.

"My father is the sergeant major of Recruiting Station San Francisco," said Liechty. "I want to take what he has taught me throughout my childhood and apply it to my time in the Marine Corps."

Growing up in a typical military family, he never had the opportunity to grow roots in one place. He regularly moved around the world with his family when his father changed duty stations.

"I have lived in Japan, Florida, Virginia, Texas and many other places," said 19-year-old Liechty. "It wasn't easy moving around so much, but it taught me how to let go of things quickly."

For much of his life, Liechty was alone with his mother and younger sister, as his dad deployed and held special duty assignments quite frequently.

He explained that even though his father was not around all of the time, he still had a tremendous impact on his life

"My father taught me a lot of things while I was growing up," said Liechty, a native of Fairfield, Calif. "He taught me to stand out and be better than average and also to keep pushing when I get knocked down or discouraged."

His father, Sgt. Maj. Larry Leichty, joined the Marine Corps in 1992, and during his career, he was a drill instructor as well as a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program Instructor. The younger Liechty believed that those two positions require more discipline than most. He explained that watching his father accomplish so much is where most of his drive and determination began building inside of

himself.

Liechty went to high school at Quantico High School in Quantico, Va., where he participated in several extracurricular activities.

"I was a part of the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps and on the football team throughout all of high school," said Liechty.

While participating in the MCJROTC program, he attained the rank of first sergeant and led other students during color guard and drill exhibitions around the state.

In 2010, he tore his right anterior cruciate ligament and in 2012, he tore his left one.

"I didn't think that I would be able to join the Marine Corps after my injuries. People kept telling me that it was impossible, but that made me want it more," said Liechty. "I knew what I had to do to pursue my goal."

After months of rehabilitation and physical therapy, Liechty began to feel better and started running and working out to strengthen himself.

"My father once told me that great men fall and stand up, but greater men stand up and keep going. That was what pushed me to get better and prove to everyone that they were wrong," said Liechty.

After graduating high school in 2013, Leichty was accepted into the Marine Corps Delayed Entry Program in January of 2014, and left for recruit training in March.

While in recruit training, Liechty proved himself to not only his peers but also his drill instructors when he graduated as the company honor man, which is the most outstanding recruit in the company.

"I came to recruit training with the mindset that I needed to fill my dad's shoes," said Liechty. "He used to be a drill instructor here. Some Marines here knew him, and that was something I wasn't going to forget. I was representing my family name."

Liechty also received motivation from his two uncles and his grandfather, all who



Lance Cpl. Lawrence A. Liechty, Platoon 2127, Fox Company, a native of Fairfield, Calif., stands with his father Sgt. Maj. Larry Liechty after being meritoriously promoted to lance corporal, aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 11. Liechty expects to carry on his father's legacy and make a career out of the Marine Corps.

served in the armed forces.

During recruit training, his drill instructors described him as hard working, determined and a great leader.

"When he first arrived at recruit training he was shy," said Sgt. Benjamin A. Shangraw, senior drill instructor. "As recruit training played out, I could tell that he really

grew as a leader and did an outstanding job as guide."

Meritoriously promoted to lance corporal, Liechty will move on to Marine Combat Training at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., and then on to his military occupational specialty school as a logistics specialist. He plans on spending as much time as

he can in the Marine Corps and eventually attaining the same rank as his father.

"I want to do as many things as I can while I am in the Marine Corps," said Liechty.

"I am going to take everything my father taught me while I was growing up and see what I can do with it."

Sgt. Maj. Ronald L. Green

Parade Reviewing Officer

Sergeant Major Ronald L. Green is the I MEF sergeant major.

Green enlisted in the Marine Corps November 1983 and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C.

Upon completion of recruit training, Green was assigned to Battery H, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif. While assigned as a cannon cocker with Hotel Battery, he was meritoriously promoted to lance corporal in August 1984.

In November 1985, Green was transferred to Battery D, 2nd Battallion, 12th Marines in Okinawa, Japan. He was meritoriously promoted to corporal in May 1985 and, in November 1986, he rotated back to Camp Pendleton with Battery D. Green was meritoriously promoted to sergeant in September 1986 and worked with the Marine Corps Nuclear Artillery Battalion as a section chief.

He was reassigned to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in 1988, as a Tower Operator for Southern Impact Area Control (SIAC), also known as Long Rifle.

In January 1990, Green was ordered to drill instructor duty at MCRD Parris Island, where he served as a drill instructor and senior drill instructor with Company C, and as drill master for 1st Recruit Training Battalion. He was meritoriously promoted to staff sergeant in July 1992, and returned to Camp Pendleton to serve with Battery E, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines.

Green was promoted to gunnery sergeant in 1997, and to first sergeant in December 2000. He was ordered to inspector instructor duty in Bossier City, La., and deployed to South

America during that time on operation United Americas (UNITAS).

In December 2004, Green was selected to the rank of sergeant major and transferred to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron-169 in April 2005, and deployed to Operation Induring Freedom from March 2006 to September 2006.

Green transferred to Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 39 in February 2007, and in June 2008, he transferred to Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps, Henderson Hall in Arlington, Virginia.

Green was ordered to Marine Corps Forces Europe and Marine Corps Forces Africa as the force sergeant major in August 2010 until present.

Green's personal awards include the Legion of Merit Medal (gold star in lieu of second award), Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with 4 gold stars in lieu of fifth award, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with 2 gold stars in lieu of third award, the Good Conduct Medal with 1 silver and 3 gold bronze stars in lieu of his 9th award, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.





Lance Cpl. L. A. Liechty San Francisco Recruited by Sgt. M. E. Earle

Lance Cpl. R. D. Holder Milwaukee Recruited by Sgt. M. Everett

Pfc. A. V. Urquidez San Diego Recruited by Staff Sgt. A. Johnston

Pfc. C. G. Corsetti Salt Lake City Recruited by Sgt. C. D. Souza

Pfc. B. D. Peterson San Francisco Recruited by Sgt. T. N. Kéahey

PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. L. Rowe Salt Lake City Recruited by Staff Sgt. L. W. Pitzak

Pvt. A. A. Lara Kansas City, Mo. Marksman Instructor Staff Sgt. M. Mendoza HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. A. N. Rodriquez San Antonio Recruited by Staff Sgt. R. A. Gomez



FOX COMPAN

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PLATOON 2126

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PLATOON 2127

Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. B. A. Shangraw **Drill Instructors** Sgt. B. Gooden Sgt. A. J. Juedes Sgt. S. J. Kelly Sgt. J. J. Marler

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 2121

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Pfc. T. S. Contreras

PLATOON 2125

Pvt. E. A. Horner

Pfc. J. E. Jacobo

Pfc. G. M. Marquez III

Pfc. D. T. Arant Pvt. R. Borrayo Pfc. G. P. Bragg Pfc. J. S. Carino Pvt. S. R. Clark Pvt. N. Elkin Pvt. J. E. Garcia *Pfc. T. A. Gorby Pvt. A. M. Grant *Pfc. R. M. Hayes Pvt. K. J. Kohrs Pfc. J. J. Kun Pvt. S. A. Landaverde Pfc. C. K. McCoy

Pvt. R. J. Melanson Pvt. J. O. Mendoza *Pfc. D. B. Moore Pfc. J. A. Mulero Pvt. C. M. Mungia Pvt. E. N. Najarro Pvt. G. A. Nickels Pvt. C. Ortega Pvt. O. L. Ortega III Pvt. W. M. Ortiz Pfc. J. S. Ortonio Pfc. K. A. Owen Pvt. H. N. Pantoja *Pfc. B. D. Peterson Pfc. L. M. Pickering Pvt. A. Posada Jr. Pfc. T. T. Pugh Pvt. T. D. Purifoy Pfc. C. Rangel Pvt. O. Rojas-Martinez Pfc. B. C. Root Pvt. F. R. Rosales-Ramos Pvt. H. Sanchez Pvt. A. J. Schell Pvt. K. D. Shoulders Pvt. J. J. Tavares Pvt. J. C. Valdovinos Pvt. L. Velarde-Caraballido

PLATOON 2126

Pfc. D. Zhang

Pvt. A. Jaramillo Pvt. Z. W. Jerman Pvt. S. A. Johnson Pvt. D. V. Johnson Pvt. J. D. Leighton Pvt. A. S. Lewandowski Pvt. J. R. Lilly Jr. Pvt. G. Lopez *Pfc. D. M. Lucas Pfc. N. A. Lucero-Boleyn Pvt. T. C. Luna Pfc. C. R. Magee Pfc. L. D. Maldonado Pvt. F. L. Mancia Pvt. D. Martinez Pvt. F. G. Martinez Jr. Pvt. I. M. McGinnis Pvt. B. C. Miller Pvt. M. A. Rossel Pfc. A. L. Rowe

*Pfc. J. J. Ruffin Pvt. D. A. Rupp Pvt. N. P. Ryken Pfc. F. Santos Pvt. R. D. Shakely *Pfc. N. C. Sherrill Pvt. D. E. Smith Pvt. I. E. Smith Pvt. N. R. Smith Pfc. J. R. Staats Pvt. J. L. Stock Pvt. R. W. Stuchlik Pvt. B. M. Swartling Pfc. I. O. Sy Pvt. A. J. Talavera Pfc. J. M. Tellez Pvt. B. S. Thomas Pfc. E. N. Trevisanut Pvt. B. P. Vaca Pvt. S. L. Valdez Pvt. N. R. Vernon Pvt. L. A. Vialpando Pfc. C. T. Walker Pvt. T. J. Ware *Pfc. A. J. Wells

PLATOON 2127

Pvt. C. G. Brenton Jr. Pfc. J. Chambers *Lance Cpl. L. A. Liechty *Pfc. D. E. Miller Pvt. T. Montoya Pvt. R. A. Mórales-Salazar Pvt. S. A. Morales-Salazar Pvt. C. D. Muniz Pfc. L. S. Nation Pfc. M. A. Naves Pfc. J. A. Ney Pvt. D. L. Nguyen Pfc. J. G. Nunez Pfc. J. A. O'Brien *Pfc. A. Pena Pfc. J. L. Petty Pfc. B. Phan Pvt. D. E. Prince Pvt. O. N. Ramirez Pvt. P. J. Reyes-Navarrete Pvt. J. W. Richard Pfc. R. C. Ridner Pvt. G. Robles Jr.

*Pfc. A. N. Rodriguez Pvt. J. E. Rodriguez Pfc. S. Rubio Jr. Pvt. K. L. Seil Pvt. P. H. Seliger Pvt. G. A. Sena Pvt. F. N. Serrano-Centeno Pfc. J. P. Sheehan Pvt. C. J. Shimkus Pfc. C. B. Solomon Pfc. T. S. Sprinkle *Pfc. C. T. Stuckey Pfc. L. C. Taft Pvt. D. D. Thompson Pvt. V. J. Verley Pvt. C. M. Vincent Pfc. R. D. Wallstrom Pfc. K. W. Walton Pfc. J. Wiebel Pfc. J. L. Willden Jr. Pfc. E. Yanez

Building the team with uniform image



Recruit Jered R. Herrera, Platoon 3243, a native of Willowbrook, Texas, gets his weekly haircut at the depot recruit barber shop June 6. From the beginning of recruit training recruits receive the same haircut to emphasize uniformity.



Recruit Viviano R. Chapa, Platoon 3243, who is from Baybrook, Texas, has his hair cropped tight to conform to Marine Corps requirements. The haircut not only emphasizes uniformity while in recruit training, it also provides for easy care.

STORY & PHOTOS BY CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE Chevron staff

ollywood has depicted Marine Corps recruits getting their first haircuts in movie after movie. New recruits at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego were able to experience that first hand.

Recruits from Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, received their first high-andtight haircut here, June 6.

From the day recruits step on the infamous yellow foot prints, their heads are shaven in attempt to remove all individualism and help them learn they are part of a team.

Whether it is the Confidence Course or the Crucible, recruits must work as a team to complete most events in recruit training. While each recruit is always working to his best effort during all events of recruit training, individualism takes a back seat.

Drill instructors believe each recruit is the same. They need to teach every recruit the same essential tools of a basically trained Marine.

Every week throughout recruit training recruits are brought to the barber shop for their weekly haircut, which leaves recruits almost completely bald.

"It doesn't matter what week in training they are," said Sgt. Andreau M. Winslow, drill instructor, Platoon 3242. "They will have a clean haircut, their faces will be shaven and they will be presentable."

Personal appearance starts early in recruit training. Beginning on the first night the recruits are with their drill instructors, they are instructed on how to shave and keep parts of their uniforms squared away, explained Winslow.

While uniformity is the biggest factor in recruit haircuts, it is for hygienic purposes as well.

"There are a lot of recruits in one platoon," said Winslow, a native of Wichita, Kan. "Their hair cut is short to prevent them from getting lice and other skin diseases while in recruit training."

During training, it doesn't matter where recruits came from or what they did before deciding to enlist in the Corps. They left that all behind when they came through the gate.

"We are stripped of our regular clothes, our hair and our personalities," said Recruit Isaac D. Echelberry, Plt. 3242. "We are learning the same thing and completing all of the same tasks together. We are becoming the same basically trained Marine."

Throughout recruit training, recruits drill, learn and move as a team.

"The last time these recruits were individuals, they were sitting on the bus with their heads down awaiting a drill instructor," said 25-year-old Winslow. "Uniformity creates unity, teamwork and enhances esprit de corps."

Company L is getting ready to take on the Crucible and earn the title Marine. As their graduation date approaches, they were given the famous military high-and-tight as they prepare to transition out of recruit training and move to the fleet Marine force.

"It all starts in recruit training," said Winslow. "After they (recruits) leave recruit training the standards will not go down. They will be held to them for the rest of their careers in the Corps."



A recruit with Platoon 3243 buys hygiene supplies at the depot's recruit exchange. Recruits are expected to keep high grooming standards while in training.



Recruit Joel A. Corrales, Platoon 3243, a Tucson, Ariz., native, carefully watches as he gets his weekly haircut June 6.