



Alpha Company's Lance Cpl. Cresencio Ramirez is this week's Recruit Feature

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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO



AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

Vol. 75 – Issue 23

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

TOP STORY **CRUCIBLE TEACHES DETECTION**

ALPHA RECRUITS LEARN TO PREVENT IED BLAST

IEDS CAN BE FOUND ANYWHERE AND BE EASILY DETONATED

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOAL IS A CRUCIAL MOS TO MARINE CORPS



Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, walk in a combat patrol as a simulated improvised explosive device explodes inside an abandoned vehicle during the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Aug. 25. If the simulated IED exploded on them, the Marines hit by it had to lie down to indicate injury while the rest of the Marines evacuated them from the area while providing security.

STORY & PHOTOS BY
CPL. JERICO W. CRUTCHER
Chevron staff

One of the many threats in modern day warfare is Improvised Explosive Devices, which is why recruits are trained in the early stages of their Marine Corps careers on how to search and react to an IED device.

Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, patrolled in a combat patrol formation, through an IED course, during the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Aug. 25.

“IEDs are always going to be a threat we have to have a keen eye for,” said Recruit Antonio R. Childress. “The training we receive during this course is very in-depth and shows us what to look for in order to indicate possible IEDs.”

They learned about the explosives through a walk down trail known as IED lane. This event at the Crucible takes recruits down a path and through a small market place. Along the way, there are simulated IEDs and one filled with talcum powder that can be triggered by remote and trip wires.

Recruits are required to stay alert

and be on the lookout for anything they would consider suspicious. If they set off an IED, they must evacuate their simulated casualties and post security.

see IED ▶4

IED FACTS...

They are improvised explosive devices made from almost anything with any type of material and initiator.

The cheaply made weapon is manufactured by the thousands.

The homemade device is designed to cause death or injury by using explosives alone or in combination with toxic chemicals, biological toxins, or radiological material.

IEDs can be located in the ground, vehicles, buildings or implemented as a suicide attack on foot or in a vehicle.

During the past two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the homemade bomb created more U.S. casualties than any other weapon.



Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training, stop just before crossing a trip wire improvised explosive device during the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Aug. 25. Although this is the first IED training these Marines received while in the Marine Corps, they will build on the knowledge in their follow-on training at the School of Infantry.

BRIEFS

Gate 4 closure

Gate 4 is closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic until construction is completed in December.

During Gate 4 renovation, operating hours of Gates 2 and 5 will be as follows:

Gate 2:

Open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
seven days a week

Gate 5:

Open 24 hours

New Marine Family Meet & Greet

The depot hosts a New Marine Family Meet and Greet each Wednesday prior to graduation from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Bay View Restaurant.

This is a chance for families to meet other new Marine families and depot drill instructors. The event price of \$21.95 per person entitles the purchaser to a steak or chicken dinner. Dinner service starts at 6 p.m.

For information and reservations go to www.mcrdmeetandgreet.eventbrite.com or call (619) 725-6388.

Career & Education Fair

The depot will sponsor a Career and Education Fair Sept. 15 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Jerry Coleman Center (formerly the Semper Fit Field House & Courtyard.

Participants will meet face-to-face with the representatives of more than 100 veteran friendly employers and educators who are prepared to discuss your future.

Dress to impress and bring copies of your resume.

For information call (619) 524-1283 or 5728.

Boot Camp Challenge

The depot's annual 3-mile obstacle run, the Boot Camp Challenge, pits Marines and civilians against an obstacle course featuring obstacles faced by recruits during training.

The event is scheduled for Sept. 26, at 9 a.m. Runners will be encouraged by depot drill instructors along the way.

Cost to register and participate in the event is:

- \$39 for individual runners
- \$117 for a 3-person team
- \$195 for a 5-person team
- \$45 per person at the gate on Boot Camp Challenge day.

For registration and information go to www.BootCampChallenge.com.

EFMP Info Hour

MCCS will host a one-hour brief Wednesday, Sept. 9 from noon to 1 p.m., in Bldg. 6-Explaining the Exceptional Family Member Program, how it can help, how to enroll and where to look for support. To register or for more information, contact Allison Newcomer at 619-718-3764

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.

Each week, the graduating company leadership has the difficult job of filling a request from the Public Affairs Office- to scour the platoons and find a recruit who embodies what it is to be a Marine. Sometimes the story is filled with tragedy, sometimes it is filled with success. This week’s company feature was chosen because of his willingness to help others, his leadership and his never-ending esprit de Corps.

COMPANY FEATURE

...LANCE CPL. RAMIERZ

STORY & PHOTO BY
CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE
Chevron staff

Being the best isn’t all about strength. It’s being able to handle situations better than your peers and having the will power and motivation to rise above the opposition.

Lance Cpl. Cresencio Ramirez, company honorman, Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, had a vision to become the greatest recruit of his company even before stepping on the yellow footprints.

“Ever since I heard about what the honorman was, I knew that was what I wanted,” said Ramirez. “I wanted nothing other than to be the best for myself and to be an example for my family.”

The young Marine grew up in Glendale, Ariz., where he attended Glendale High School. He played a variety of sports including wrestling, baseball and football and was always the competitive type.

“I love competition,” said Ramirez. “I always want to push myself and be the best.”

Ramirez explained that his family struggles financially trying to make ends meet, which is why he turned to the military.

“I joined the Marine Corps first and foremost because they are the best,” said the lance corporal. “I wanted to give back to the country that gave my family and I a lot as I grew older.”

When he was a freshman in high school, Ramirez explained that he got into contact with a recruiter, but he was too young to start the process. However, when he turned 17, and with his parents support, he immediately called the



Lance Cpl. Cresencio Ramirez, company honorman, Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, poses at the Drill Instructor Monument at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Aug. 31. Following recruit training, Ramirez will move on to the School of Infantry to pursue his path as an infantryman.

recruiter and enlisted into the Corps.

“When I first arrived in the Delayed Entry Program, I wasn’t the strongest or the best,” said Ramirez. “I worked as hard as I could on everything, and by the time I shipped off to recruit training, I was among the top performers in my recruiting station.”

He explained that he worked on his run time and his pull-ups almost every day and simply strived to be the best out of his peers.

“When I was a poolee, one of my peers was talking to me and told me that he was going to be the guide and I had no idea what that was,” said Ramirez. “When I found out what it consisted of, I went back to him and said ‘no, I am’.”

From that point on, Ramirez had a vision to not only become the best out of his peers but to prove himself and to his younger siblings that he had enough spirit in him to be a leader and an example.

“I am the oldest one out of my siblings,” said Ramirez. “I want them to see what they can potentially do when they grow up, and most of all, I want my family to be proud of me.”

Ramirez wasted no time finding his way to becoming platoon guide, the highest position a recruit can achieve while in recruit training and he was appointed to the position the first day he met his drill instructors.

Throughout recruit training, Ramirez was not only a leader to his fellow recruits, but also a mentor.

“When recruits in my platoon would get a bad letter from home or something bothered them, they would come straight to me,” said Ramirez. “I not only helped my fellow recruits, but also cared about them and their well-being.”

Ramirez explained how being guide wasn’t easy, but looking back at it, it was worth it.

“You sacrifice a lot of small freedoms you get as a recruit,” said Ramirez. “I had to eat last, sleep less and be the best at everything we did, but I wouldn’t take it back for anything. All of the late nights I spent studying is worth everything now.”

Ramirez has some words of wisdom to share with future recruits who may have the same vision he did.

“To all those who may be in the same position as me, I want to let them know what the best thing to do is stay humble, don’t bring your recruits down and simply empathize with them,” said Ramirez. “Also know when it’s time to work and when it’s time to take a minute to yourself. The last thing is to strive to be the best, never come in second.

Following recruit training, Ramirez will move on to the School of Infantry to pursue his path as an infantryman. He is unsure how long his Marine Corps career will last, but is excited to repay the country for all it has done for him and his family. He plans to apply all the disciplines he learns during his enlisted time to his life after the Marine Corps.

“The feeling of being honorman is truly unbelievable, and I am still speechless,” said Ramirez. “It is an honor to have my family and recruiter recognized. I hope I make them proud.”

September = National Preparedness Month!!

Each week we’ll highlight hazard-focused theses leading up to the National PrepareAthon! Day, September 30. This week’s theme is preparing for flooding. During this time, talk with your family about flooding. You can learn how to take action for this common hazard by using the ‘How to Prepare for a Flood’ guide from America’s PrepareAthon! It is particularly important to be prepared if you live in a low-lying area near a body of water such as a river or stream, along a coast or downstream from a dam or levee. The guide outlines ways to protect yourself and your property before a flood threatens your community. You can reduce the risk of damage to your home by:

- Elevating critical utilities such as electrical panels, appliances, wiring, and heating systems
- Waterproofing your basement and installing a water alarm
- Clearing debris from downspouts and gutters.

Purchasing flood insurance can help you manage any damage that might occur to your home, but typically there is a 30-day waiting period for the policy to take effect. Listening and following instructions from officials for community evacuations and seeking higher ground for localized flooding will assist in smooth operations during a flood. The best way to protect yourself and your family is to evacuate early to avoid being trapped in floodwaters.

For more information contact AC/S G-3 Mission Assurance at 619-524-8432



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1st RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

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Battalion Drill Master

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* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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Pfc. W. J. Barr
Pfc. R. C. Baten

Pfc. M. J. Baumgartner	Pvt. K. Harris	Pfc. N. J. Bayley	Pfc. A. R. Martinez	PLATOON 1015	Pvt. D. M. Nicholson
Pfc. T. J. Bia	Pvt. J. E. Hoffman	Pvt. A. H. Bedell	Pvt. L. P. Mazariegosquinteros		Pfc. M. J. Nieves III
Pvt. J. K. Bostian	*Pfc. C. B. Lair	*Pfc. P. B. Callaway	Pvt. C. S. Mitchell	*Pfc. N. C. Atkins	Pfc. J. C. Nuckols
Pfc. J. C. Bragg	Pfc. B. N. Lehman	Pvt. K. R. Camacho	Pvt. A. G. Montealegre	Pfc. C. J. Barker	Pfc. T. A. Ornelas
Pvt. Z. T. Brandes	Pvt. J. M. Lennon	Pvt. J. M. Cardoza	Pvt. M. Montesdeoca	Pfc. J. E. Bybee	Pvt. M. Pinedo
Pvt. C. R. Braquet	Pvt. J. J. Littledeer	Pvt. V. A. Carreon	Pfc. E. J. Munoz	Pfc. A. M. Chapman	Pfc. M. J. Pryor
Pfc. B. E. Breadon	Pvt. E. D. Lopez	Pfc. T. J. Carrillo	Pfc. R. J. Navarroeppler	*Pfc. E. A. Cook	Pvt. B. A. Quenga Jr
Pfc. S. D. Breshears	Pfc. F. S. Marrero	Pfc. J. E. Castilloflores	Pvt. D. L. Neumanroper	Pfc. C. J. Cooper	Pfc. T. C. Reynolds
Pvt. E. J. Brix	Pfc. J. E. Martinez	Pfc. A. R. Childress	Pvt. A. Nevarez	Pvt. J. A. Cooper	Pvt. D. C. Robinson
Pvt. E. A. Brost	Pfc. F. H. Martinez Jr	Pfc. J. I. Christie	*Pfc. T. G. Ponte	Pfc. M. C. Cooper	Pvt. A. C. Robles
Pvt. K. Brown	Pvt. M. A. Mejia	Pfc. B. Corpuz	Pfc. R. A. Puentes	Pvt. A. Delgado	Pfc. I. J. Rodriguez
Pvt. G. Brown	Pvt. I. A. Mendoza	*Pfc. B. M. Davis	Pfc. J. Ramirez	Pvt. D. G. Dpoffo	Pfc. E. Z. Rosett
*Pfc. M. L. Bucknerjackson	Pfc. M. S. Merazgomez	Pfc. J. A. Echevarriagross	Pfc. D. V. Ramos	Pvt. C. R. Drevo	Pvt. R. G. Rugg
Pvt. D. T. Burlingame	Pfc. W. M. Minnick	Pvt. W. E. Espinoza	Pvt. M. A. Reeves	Pfc. D. N. Eng	Pvt. Z. E. Rush
*Pfc. M. J. Burwell	Pvt. A. E. Morales	Pvt. B. E. Fansler	Pfc. K. G. Rivas	Pfc. K. M. Flores	Pvt. A. K. Ruth
Pvt. J. A. Buttitta	Pfc. L. R. Nicholas	Pvt. R. S. Fox	Pvt. J. E. Rodrigues III	Pvt. C. M. Ghumm	Pvt. R. G. Santos Jr
Pvt. J. R. Calderon	Pfc. N. M. Piltz	Pvt. T. R. Franco	Pfc. H. R. Rojas	*Pfc. M. E. Gilmore	*Pfc. J. L. Scavuzzo
Pvt. N. D. Callejas	Pvt. R. C. Pulido	Pvt. E. R. Gill	Pfc. E. Romero	Pvt. N. B. Goodwin	Pvt. C. T. Schmit
Pvt. L. F. Camposrojas	Pvt. L. Quintero III	Pvt. A. J. Gomez	Pvt. H. A. Romero	Pvt. C. F. Griesinger	Pvt. D. N. Smith
Pvt. M. A. Cardenas	Pvt. G. Ramirez Jr	Pvt. J. A. Gonzalez	Pvt. M. T. Ross	Pfc. J. E. Hanks	*Pfc. J. K. Sonnier II
Pvt. J. J. Cardenas Jr	Pfc. L. A. Rodriguez	Pvt. A. Guerrero	Pvt. G. Rueda	*Pfc. C. A. Hardesty	Pfc. C. R. Spears
Pfc. V. M. Casas	Pvt. C. R. Rodriguez Jr	Pfc. C. Guevara	Pvt. J. N. Schafer	Pvt. Z. J. Hoppe	Pvt. V. C. Spence
Pvt. K. A. Casey	Pvt. C. E. Romero	Pfc. F. Gutierrez	Pfc. J. W. Schmitt	Pvt. P. H. Hough	Pfc. J. E. Stohlhammer
Pfc. D. Castaneda	Pvt. A. V. Scheu	Pvt. H. A. Guzman	Pvt. Z. M. Silverman	Pfc. C. L. Hurd	Pfc. K. L. Stucks
Pvt. C. J. Cavill	Pvt. J. A. Smith	Pvt. M. R. Hernandez	Pvt. H. Singh	Pvt. Z. M. Hyatt	Pfc. M. A. Sutliff
Pfc. D. J. Champion	Pvt. A. T. Spaulding	Pfc. T. J. Hernandez	Pfc. C. R. Smith	Pvt. J. R. Jackson	Pvt. B. V. Terrel
Pvt. T. A. Chase	Pvt. B. M. Stokoe	Pvt. J. J. Jimenez	Pvt. K. A. Sogata	Pfc. J. T. Jarvis	Pvt. D. J. Teter
Pfc. E. Chavezcano	Pvt. A. P. Tin	Pvt. A. T. Kunz	Pfc. R. J. Sweet	Pfc. S. D. Kendall	Pvt. A. W. Toney
Pvt. J. Chiovitti	Pvt. A. M. Torres	Pfc. H. P. Lacanilao	Pvt. J. R. Taormina	Pvt. N. J. Kerscher	Pfc. C. W. Tongate
*Pfc. J. A. Chun	Pfc. A. J. Troyer	Pfc. R. Landeroz	Pvt. E. A. Tenchka	Pfc. J. S. Knight	Pvt. N. J. Twenter
Pfc. A. P. Crawford	Pfc. D. J. Utter	*Pfc. G. Lara	Pvt. J. T. Trueblood	Pfc. J. D. Kresal	Pvt. S. Velandia
Pfc. D. A. Darold	Pvt. E. Verdin	Pfc. C. F. Larkin	Pvt. A. R. Ukkestad	Pfc. J. A. Lambert	Pfc. J. M. Wade Jr
Pfc. R. Delgado	Pvt. T. E. Watson	Pvt. J. G. Laureano	Pvt. B. Uribe	Pvt. T. A. Lang	Pvt. A. C. Watkins
Pfc. C. D. Dunaway	Pvt. M. J. Willis	Pvt. G. M. Leo	Pvt. C. D. Vacchio	Pvt. D. F. Lefky	Pfc. T. J. Weiland
Pvt. D. F. Enyart	Pvt. Z. D. Wolsieffer	Pvt. D. F. Leyden Jr	Pvt. J. P. Varela	Pvt. Lemonyounger	Pfc. N. R. Wheeler
Pvt. J. S. Faustino		Pfc. I. A. Lizardesalinas	Pfc. B. A. Vice	Pvt. W. A. Martin	Pfc. M. C. Williams
Pfc. J. L. Floresibarra	PLATOON 1014	Pfc. F. A. Lomeli	Pvt. H. V. Vosbeek	Pvt. N. L. Mcclenathan	Pfc. W. T. Woods
Pvt. S. L. Garcia	Pvt. K. O. Aguilara	Pfc. J. J. Lopezherrera	Pfc. T. J. Walker	Pfc. J. A. Mendez	Pfc. D. B. Wynn
Pvt. M. O. Garcia Jr	Pvt. F. Aguirre	Pvt. E. D. Luna	*Pfc. J. P. West	Pfc. C. S. Mitchell	Pfc. J. H. Yoteco
Pvt. A. Gonzalez Jr	Pvt. J. L. Aldape	Pfc. M. Marcelo	Pvt. M. A. Zamarripaolivas	Pvt. C. J. Newnam	Pvt. N. M. Zuranski
Pvt. J. M. Hardiman	Pvt. J. E. Amaya	Pvt. J. C. Martin		Pfc. R. A. Nichols	Pfc. K. Zuritaramirez

IED❖1



Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, learn to search for, recognize and react to IEDs during the IED Lane exercise at the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Aug. 25. The recruits patrol through a simulated shopping area and along roads searching signs of potential devices. If an IED was detonated during the exercise, some recruits were designated as casualty requiring evacuation, while remaining platoon-members set up perimeter security.

“We learn how to spot the IEDs being aware of our surroundings and having attention to detail,” said 18-year-old Childress. “If an IED does go off, we learn how to handle that situation as well by securing the area and taking care of the injured.”

After recruits either spotted or set off an IED, an instructor assembled them in a circle and reviewed what they learned.

About 200 feet from the beginning of the course was an IED located in an abandoned car that recruits should have spotted, but didn’t.

When the IED detonated, it sent a blast of white smoke. Any Marine near the smoke was then considered a

casualty and the other Marines had 60 seconds to evacuate them to a safe zone.

At the end, the field instructors briefed the Marines on how they did, what they did wrong and what they did right.

Although this is the first IED training these Marines received while in the Marine Corps, they will build on the knowledge in their follow-on training at the School Of Infantry.

“The knowledge I gained about IEDs today is something I will continue to build on throughout my career,” said Recruit Brendan W. Mooney. “One day it might all come back down to my training and attention to detail in order to save my life or another Marine.”



Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training, receive a brief on what will be expected of them as they walk through a simulated improvised explosive device lane during the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton California, Aug. 25. Recruits are required to stay alert and be on the lookout for anything they would consider suspicious.



Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, carry the simulated injured recruits after an improvised explosive device explodes inside an abandoned car during the Crucible at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Aug. 25. Marines hit by it had to lie down to indicate injury while the rest of the Marines evacuated them from the area while providing security.



Recruits of Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, walk in a combat patrol scanning for improvised explosive devices during the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Aug. 25. They learned about the explosives through a walk down trail known as IED lane. This event at the Crucible takes recruits down a path and through a small market place. Along the way, there are simulated IEDs the recruits must be on the lookout to find.