**Welcome**

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

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

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

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

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

Above all else, **We Make Marines.**

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**Sequence Of Events**

**Band Serenade**

Chaplain’s Prayer *

“Attention”, “Adjutant’s Call” And March-On

The National Anthem *

Sound Off

Presentation Of The Command To The Commander Of Troops

Report

Publication Of The Order And Officers Center

Battalion Commander’s Remarks

Presentation Of The Command To The Reviewing Officer

Pass In Review (Please Rise When The American Flag Passes)

Anchors Aweigh/The Marines’ Hymn *

Graduates Return Front And Center

Recognition Of The Company Staff

Retirement Of The Platoon Guidons And Recognition Of Honor Graduates

Final Dismissal

*PLEASE RISE
Today the Recruit Depot provides its nation’s Corps with basically trained Marines to fight in the Nation and a tough undertaking for all other functions. After the war, the recruit training detachment remained the principal tenant. The base now consisted of approximately 388 acres, of which some 367 acres had been reclaimed from the tidal area. Throughout World War II, the principal activity of the base, recruit training overshadowed all other functions. After the war, the recruit training detachment remained the principal tenant. Marine Corps Base, San Diego has been home to the 4th, 6th and 10th Marine Regiments, the Fleet Marine Base and the 2nd Marine Division. However, the main focus of the base has always been recruit training and “the making of Marines.” On January 1, 1941, Marine Corps Base, San Diego officially opened Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. The Recruit Depot was the first recruit training center to open since three to eight battalions to handle the troop requirements for the Korean War. More than 700,000 recruits were processed through the depot during the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The Vietnam War caused the next period of major expansion. A 100-foot cornerstone had to be cracked, 27 new barracks, a new dining hall, new bowling alley, a new Regional Dental and Medical Clinic were constructed on the depot. In the 1970s the focus returned to including the recruiting office and the Depot became Headquarters, Western Recruiting Region. Today, the Recruit Depot provides its nation’s Corps with basically trained Marines to fight in the current conflict and in both future conflicts. The Recruit Depot is a test bed for all military personnel who are the voice of the Mississippi river to serve at the call of the nation.

Known for its unique Spanish colonial revival style architecture, the overall site and specific building plans were developed by renowned architect, Beatrix Trout. Her work also included the design of the U.S. Naval Academy and the design of the buildings built on San Diego’s Balboa Park for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. 

Twelve buildings have been named for famous Marines, such as the Dan Daly Barracks, W.P. Morse Hall, McDougall Hall, and Day Hall. Today the Recruit Depot has 388 acres and twenty-five buildings listed on the national registry of historic places.

On behalf of Brigade General B.R. Montgomery, Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot and Western Recruiting Region, and the Marines, Sailors and civilians of Marine Recruit Training Regiment, welcome you to the Recruit Depot. Today is a very special day in the life of the Commandant of the Marine Corps at Washington, D.C. about the duplicable events at Camp Pendleton and presented the idea of the possible establishment of a permanent Marine Corps Base in San Diego.

The Navy General Board approved the establishment of a base on January 19, 1914, and the Marine Base was the nation’s first military installation on the west coast. The Marine Base was the nation’s first military installation on the west coast. The Marine Corps was authorized by the Naval Appropriation bill of August 29, 1916, in large part due to the efforts of Congressman William Kettner. Generalinsuring the establishment of the base was Pendleton, on September 6, 1914, was the guest speaker at the U.S. Grant Hotel in downtown San Diego.

The subject of his speech was “San Diego”, an ideal location for a Permanent Marine Corps Base.” The drive behind his lecture was the unsatisfactory conditions and the less than convenient location of the base. General Pendleton became, officially, Marine Corps Base, San Diego, and would be known for the next 90 years as Pendleton Hall. Today, the depot has 388 acres and twenty-five buildings listed on the national registry of historic places.
Major Jonathan P Farrar

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Major Jonathan P Farrar was born in Paoli, IN, on 17 Aug 1975. He attended college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA. In 1997, he received a commission as a Second Lieutenant at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA.

Upon completion of Marine Combat Training in Camp Pendleton, CA, he reported to Marine Wing Communication Squadron-18, Marine Air Group 18, 3rd Marine Air Wing, Iwakuni, Japan, and was assigned to the Expeditionary Warfare School (non-resident). He is married to the former Ginna Mosqueda of Coachella, CA and has two children, Nathaniel and Jacob.

Major Farrar's personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal (2nd Award), and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2nd Award). In April of 2018, he was selected to serve in his final assignment in the Recruit Training Regiment as the Training Officer. From December 2015 to January 2017, he served as the Support Company Executive Officer of Recruit Training Battalion recognizing his superior performance during recruit training.

In May of 2017, Major Farrar assumed command of Headquarters Company, Highschool MCRD, in San Diego, CA. In addition to receiving the Best Battalion Executive Officer on San Diego, he was named from the yellow foot in place to which the Reforming for the first time, he was selected for the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program.

In May of 2007 Major Farrar was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and graduated from the Marine Officer Candidates School at Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA. He then served as an Assistant Logistics Officer of Recruit Training Battalion recognizing his superior performance during recruit training.

In May of 2013, Major Farrar commanded the 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, 1st Marine Division, Twentynine Palms, CA. In May of 2017, Major Farrar was selected for the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program. In April of 2018, he was selected to serve in his final assignment in the Recruit Training Regiment as the Training Officer.

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PHASE II

PHASE II - RECRUIT TRAINING

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

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

The Crucible, in part, is the manifestation of the intangible values training that has taken place earlier in recruit training. It permeates the entire evolution, forging the selfless, team-oriented Core Values concepts deep in the selflessness and teamwork.

PHASE III - MOS SCHOOLS

After graduating from recruit training and leaving the Marine Corps, the new Marines may spend as long as a year and a half, and in some instances, even up to two years, identifying their Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) and the Fleet Marine Force (FMF).

PHASE IV - SUSTAINING THE TRANSFORMATION

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

THE TRANSFORMED AMERICAN

The Corps has a long established pattern of Marines who have left the active duty ranks to become strong leaders and for the nation and we will continue to send men and women of strong character and values back to society. These Marines will carry the legacy of high character, as those Marines who are presently doing great things for our nation. We have received countless letters from influential public leaders who are active duty Marines. They give testimony to the direct connection between the character traits they forged in the Corps and their success and fulfillment in life. End result: We will continue to provide society with people of great character, whether they do four or forty years in the Marine Corps.
The most important things the Marine Corps does for our nation are to make Marines and win battles. The Corps is a versatile, force-in-readiness prepared to handle a variety of missions. We continue to be a force rich in history and traditions, ingrained with the highest values of honor, courage and commitment.

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

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

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

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

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

We are attacking the character development challenge in four phases: Recruiting, Recruit Training, MOS Schools, and Sustainment.

Phase I - Recruiting

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

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

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

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

Why The Transformation?

Phase I

How We Are Doing It.