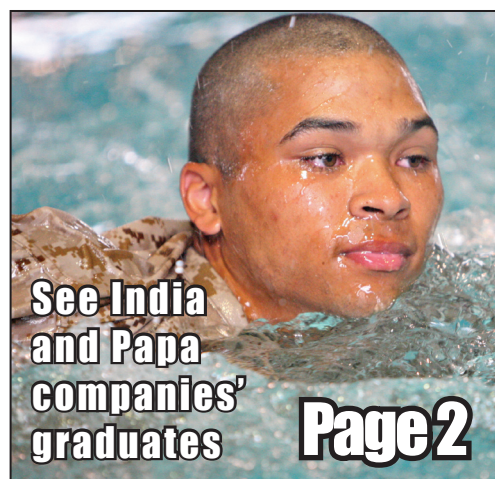


THE PARRIS ISLAND BOOT



See India and Papa companies' graduates

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Photos by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

Rct. Olivia Day, Platoon 4034, Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, performs the ammunition can lift portion of the combat fitness test at the battalion physical training field on Parris Island on Nov. 5. Recruits were required to lift a 30-pound ammunition can above their heads as many times as possible within two minutes. Day, an 18-year-old from Dayton, Ohio, is scheduled to graduate today.

PAPA COMPANY TESTS COMBAT READINESS



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Recruits of Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, watch as their drill instructors demonstrate the movement under fire portion of the combat fitness test at the battalion physical training area Nov. 5 on Parris Island. Recruits had to sprint, crawl, run with 30-pound ammunition cans, and carry and drag a partner over a short distance as preparation for situations they may encounter in their future Marine Corps careers. Papa Company is scheduled to graduate today.

INDIA COMPANY RECRUITS CONDUCT SECURITY PATROL

Lance Cpl. David Bessey
Staff Writer

The recruits of India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, ensured security around the battalion as they patrolled the area during their introduction to interior guard Oct. 24.

Interior guard is a critical component to the safety of Marines, especially overseas. The Corps has placed more emphasis on interior guard since past terrorist attacks such as the 1983 bombing of Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

"Interior guard is roving a post to ensure safety and security," said Sgt. Brian Darosa, 24, a drill instructor for Platoon 3088.

Recruits are tested on how to patrol a specified route and how to approach individuals they come into contact with during their eighth training week, said Darosa, a native of Waterbury, Conn.

The recruits began their routes starting at 8 p.m. Three teams of three recruits patrolled three separate routes around 3rd Battalion Headquarters, the company barracks and the 3rd Battalion Aid Station.

Recruits only carried a flashlight with a red beam to spot potential threats at a distance.

Recruits are not armed with their rifles during this part of training, but will patrol with their rifles during Basic Warrior Training and the Crucible at the combat training

area during watch, Darosa said.

Recruits are instructed to follow a series of steps when an unknown individual approaches their post.

First they seek cover. Recruits get low and out of sight to make them a less visible target. The recruits then order the individual to halt and request to identify themselves. If the individual cannot be recognized, they will be ordered to step forward until recognized then place an identification card on the ground. One of the recruits will advance to check the identification while the others provide cover for him. Once the recruit checks the identification card it is returned and the recruits continue their route.

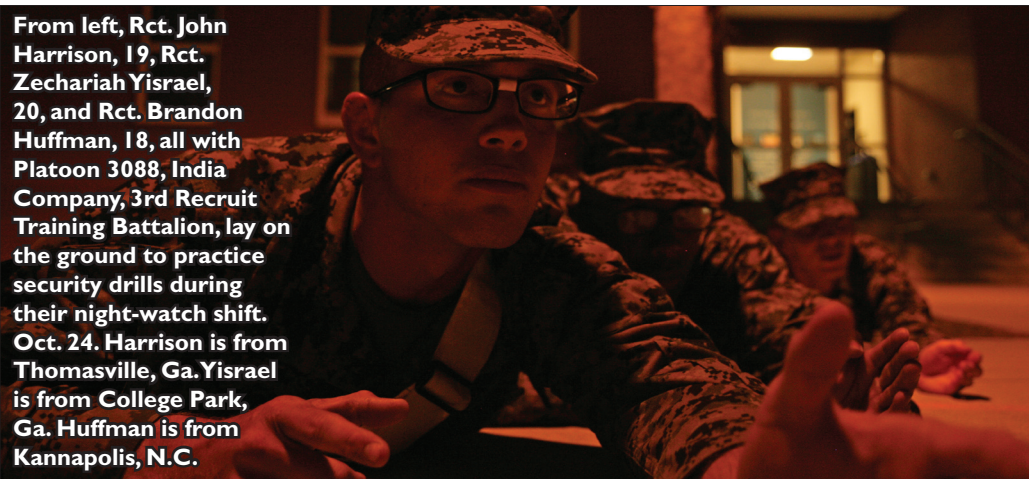
The first time during interior guard was quite a positive experience, said Pvt. Kyle Gordon, 18, Platoon 3088.

"In case we are deployed, we will have a general idea of what to do," said Gordon, a native of Blue Knob, Pa. "You're moving around. Always on guard, always on alert."

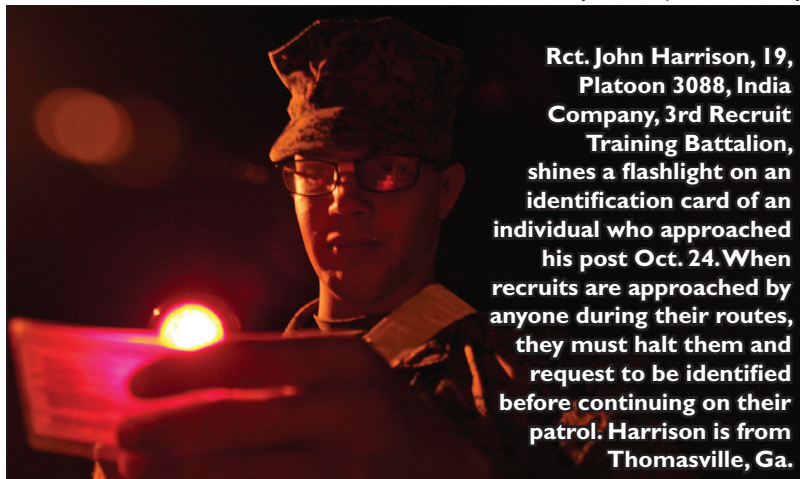
Recruits will patrol their specific area for one hour before being replaced by a new group. The patrols are carried on throughout the night until 4:30 a.m. No recruit will patrol more than once per night.

Recruits have ensured the safety of their fellow recruits after countless hours of night-watch throughout their training days. The techniques and procedures these recruits learn from interior guard training will lead them into further training and patrolling tactics as they continue their Marine Corps careers.

Photos by Lance Cpl. David Bessey



From left, Rct. John Harrison, 19, Rct. Zechariah Yisrael, 20, and Rct. Brandon Huffman, 18, all with Platoon 3088, India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, lay on the ground to practice security drills during their night-watch shift. Oct. 24. Harrison is from Thomasville, Ga. Yisrael is from College Park, Ga. Huffman is from Kannapolis, N.C.



Rct. John Harrison, 19, Platoon 3088, India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, shines a flashlight on an identification card of an individual who approached his post Oct. 24. When recruits are approached by anyone during their routes, they must halt them and request to be identified before continuing on their patrol. Harrison is from Thomasville, Ga.

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Marine escapes war, poverty in Africa, joins Corps

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Papa Company gets gassed



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India Company learns Corps' customs, courtesies



India & Papa Companies' Graduates

India Company Honor Graduates

Pfc. J. M. Mara, Johns Creek, Ga.
Platoon 3088, Mara was recruited by
Sgt. Ruddick and trained by Sgt. Fuentes

Pfc. B. M. Robertson, Washington, Pa.
Platoon 3090, Robertson was recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. Finger and trained by Sgt. King

Pfc. J. P. Tighe, Lindenhurst, N.Y.
Platoon 3093, Tighe was recruited by
Sgt. Keeton and trained by Staff Sgt. Dean

Pfc. S. A. Blain, Wadsworth, Ohio
Platoon 3089, Blain was recruited by
Sgt. Pier and trained by Sgt. Pacheco

Pfc. M. R. Logan, Shrewsbury, Mass.
Platoon 3092, Logan was recruited by
Sgt. Blais and trained by Staff Sgt. Mathews

Pfc. D. A. Carreno, Miami
Platoon 3094, Carreno was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Martinez and trained by Sgt. Prograis

Papa Company Honor Graduates

Pfc. C. L. Porter, Crown Point, Ind.
Platoon 4034, Porter was recruited by
Gunnery Sgt. Mitchell and trained by Staff Sgt. Sandoval

Pfc. K. J. Fugate, Rockford, Mich.
Platoon 4035, Fugate was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Jeffers and trained by Staff Sgt. Zavala

Platoon 3088

Pvt. W. M. Adams, Pvt. C. W. Akers, Pvt. C. L. Archer, Pfc. L. G. Avila Jr., Pvt. J. T. Berry, Pfc. K. E. Black, Pvt. A. W. Branyon, Pfc. F. D. Bratcher, Pfc. A. H. Briggs, Pvt. M. A. Browne, Pvt. K. M. Buckman, Pvt. G. P. Bynum, Pvt. B. A. Campbell, Pvt. T. L. Caudill, Pfc. E. W. Cole, Pvt. S. D. Crosby, Pvt. K. J. Cross, Pvt. J. W. Crutcher, Pfc. Z. T. Cunningham, Pfc. E. K. Cumow, Pvt. R. L. Currier, Pfc. A. J. Edwards, Pfc. J. A. Ertel, Pvt. E. M. Fournier, Pvt. L. T. Francis, Pfc. M. A. Furst, Pvt. S. D. Gagnon, Pfc. T. C. Galbreath, Pvt. B. M. Geib, Pvt. S. M. Glass, Pvt. T. A. Goins, Pvt. K. S. Gordon, Pvt. A. M. Graham, Pvt. J. P. Hall, Pfc. R. J. Hamelberg, Pvt. R. L. Harlow IV, Pfc. S. R. Harrington, Pfc. J. W. Harris, Pfc. J. S. Harrison, Pfc. C. E. Herrera-White, Pfc. C. E. Hopkins, Pvt. S. J. Howell II, Pvt. C. M. Howell, Pvt. B. L. Huffman, Pvt. J. D. Humphries, Pfc. A. R. Huthmacher, Pfc. K. D. Stanley, Pvt. C. Z. Jones, Pfc. T. R. Juhan Jr., Pvt. M. S. Kessler, Pvt. J. B. Kilmartin, Pfc. J. W. Lambert, Pfc. M. J. Lester, Pvt. K. C. Lewis, Pvt. D. Loera, Pfc. M. A. Mahanes, Pfc. V. A. Manganello, Pfc. J. M. Mara, Pvt. T. R. Marks, Pvt. M. J. Mason, Pfc. M. D. McBride, Pvt. D. L. McCastle, Pvt. Z. I. McCune, Pfc. S. D. Mitchell, Pfc. D. A. Musser, Pfc. D. C. Noble, Pvt. J. Osorio, Pvt. C. S. Petrie, Pvt. D. R. Pos, Pvt. E. A. Poulin, Pvt. B. L. Ratiiff III, Pvt. J. F. Reed, Pvt. D. C. Rice, Pfc. K. L. Rogers, Pfc. R. Salamanca, Pfc. A. J. Sawyers, Pfc. C. A. Sayan, Pfc. M. Sinyayev, Pfc. A. M. Skaggs, Pvt. T. C. Stubbs, Pfc. R. A. Suarez, Pvt. Z. S. Tarr, Pfc. B. Vaziri, Pfc. Z. M. Vet, Pfc. B. A. Waddell, Pfc. D. L. Webb, Pfc. B. P. Whitney, Pfc. C. S. Wiggins, Pvt. D. D. Williams Jr., Pvt. S. S. Yi, Pvt. Z. Yisrael, Pvt. C. J. Young

Platoon 3089

Pvt. A. J. Adkins, Pfc. M. S. Albini, Pfc. C. Aldana, Pfc. R. F. Ammons, Pvt. L. M. Amore, Pvt. J. D. Anderson, Pvt. J. C. Andrus, Pvt. M. B. Bailey, Pfc. D. J. Barber, Pvt. I. S. Bell, Pvt. V. E. Bernard, Pvt. D. D. Betha Jr., Pfc. J. E. Billingsley, Pfc. N. R. Blaha, Pfc. S. A. Blain, Pfc. J. R. Botley, Pfc. J. E. Broughton, Pfc. A. I. Brown, Pvt. J. C. Cameron, Pvt. D. S. Carter, Pvt. J. D. Cassell, Pfc. R. E. Clinton, Pfc. B. M. Collins, Pvt. S. M. Demarcy, Pvt. J. N. Diaz, Pvt. R. L. Dockstader, Pvt. C. D. Draughton, Pvt. M. L. Evans, Pvt. J. A. Ezquivel, Pfc. B. K. Formhals, Pvt. J. J. Fulmer, Pvt. P. G. Galligan, Pvt. W. J. Giarratana, Pvt. D. J. Goodson, Pfc. A. L. Grice Jr., Pfc. C. A. Griffith, Pvt. G. M. Groh, Pfc. T. D. Hamby, Pvt. D. Hidalgo, Pvt. M. A. Hogge, Pfc. J. Hollands, Pfc. P. C. Holliday, Pvt. D. J. Imperio, Pfc. C. D. Johnson Scibona, Pvt. D. K. Jones, Pfc. T. A. Jordan, Pfc. J. S. Joseph, Pfc. N. R. Lapointe, Pfc. E. J. Lord, Pvt. J. L. Mackey, Pvt. T. P. Marshall, Pvt. D. J. Martin, Pvt. M. D. Martino, Pfc. S. D. Maxwell, Pvt. G. M'Cauley, Pfc. A. M. McCall, Pfc. J. J. McCullough, Pvt. E. A. McDaniel Jr., Pvt. M. P. McNeill, Pvt. D. J. McRae, Pfc. T. S. Muscat, Pfc. J. A. Nesbit, Pfc. Z. D. Norris, Pvt. L. J. O'Malley, Pfc. N. D. Paine, Pfc. G. C. Patenaude, Pvt. J. S. Patz, Pvt. T. L. Perkins, Pfc. W. L. Perkins, Pvt. B. A. Pierce, Pfc. E. N. Quaintance, Pvt. Z. S. Raganit, Pfc. T. R. Richards, Pvt. T. A. Riggs, Pvt. M. E. Riley, Pfc. C. L. Robinson, Pvt. T. N. Ruvalcaba, Pfc. A. O. Sanchez, Pfc. L. H. Sanchez, Pvt. M. W. Setliff Jr., Pvt. J. A. Shoenfelt, Pvt. P. T. Sinicropi, Pvt. D. M. Smith, Pvt. Z. H. Snider, Pfc. J. D. Sprague, Pvt. J. M. Stratton, Pvt. A. L. Taylor, Pvt. J. B. Thomas, Pvt. B. T. Urban, Pvt. N. B. Vanbuskirk, Pvt. B. T. Warren, Pfc. J. A. Westerfield, Pvt. B. L. Womer, Pfc. C. J. Woody

Platoon 3090

Pvt. J. J. Ahn, Pvt. K. C. Angove, Pvt. A. R. Arco, Pfc. S. G. Barber, Pfc. G. C. Barrow, Pvt. P. J. Bearden, Pvt. C. L. Bennage, Pfc. D. J. Berry II, Pfc. C. T. Bracey, Pfc. I. C. Campbell, Pvt. C. A. Cantwell, Pvt. P. S. Cater, Pfc. C. L. Chapman, Pvt. L. K. Chaumont, Pvt. M. E. Chunn, Pvt. D. K. Cox, Pvt. E. R. Crook, Pfc. S. M. Cusson, Pfc. E. J. Dehart, Pfc. S. M. Donaldson, Pfc. J. T. Downard, Pfc. W. A. Dozier, Pfc. C. F. Edwards, Pvt. S. Estevez, Pvt. D. L. Evans, Pfc. J. W. Forrester, Pvt. H. E. Fuentes, Pfc. J. B. Geddes, Pfc. J. C. Ham, Pvt. S. T. Harris, Pvt. A. J. Haubner, Pfc. R. C. Henry, Pfc. S. J. Herzog, Pvt. C. M. Hodge, Pvt. B. E. Holloway, Pfc. C. B. Jarvis, Pvt. B. R. Johnson, Pvt. J. J. Jones, Pfc. D. E. Keeler, Pfc. R. S. Keever, Pvt. P. M. Kelley Jr., Pvt. C. M. Kelley, Pvt. J. P. Kitchens, Pvt. D. G. Knepp, Pvt. B. S. Krise, Pfc. S. M. Landry, Pfc. E. K. Lanier, Pvt. T. J. Leach, Pvt. A. A. Lewis, Pvt. D. P. Little, Pfc. E. Littlefield, Pvt. Z. S. Livingston, Pvt. S. J. Lombardo, Pfc. I. S. Martin, Pvt. P. A. Matt, Pvt. K. C. Miller, Pvt. J. L. Moody, Pvt. B. W. Moorman, Pfc. H. Morrison, Pfc. M. D. Neal, Pvt. A. N. Neeley, Pfc. J. F. Nunez, Pvt. S. C. Oliver, Pfc. K. P. Ormsby, Pfc. D. S. Ottenbacher, Pfc. B. J. Patrick, Pfc. R. A. Pruett, Pvt. I. D. Rabbweaver, Pfc. B. A. Reasonover, Pvt. S. A. Reedy, Pvt. N. A. Reynolds, Pvt. D. C. Richard, Pvt. J. M. Rivera, Pfc. B. M. Robertson, Pvt. S. Sanchez II, Pfc. B. G. Shewmake, Pvt. A. N. Smith, Pvt. E. G. Smith, Pfc. J. I. Stevens, Pvt. D. B. Stockman, Pvt. D. Z. Stump, Pvt. J. J. Sutton, Pfc. T. M. Sykes, Pvt. S. R. Tardy, Pvt. T. S. Theisen, Pvt. J. B. Todd, Pvt. W. T. Varro, Pvt. N. S. Wasilewsky, Pfc. C. L. White, Pvt. D. J. Ybarra

Platoon 3092

Pvt. R. R. Al-Bacha Hjazji, Pvt. K. J. Bennett, Pvt. M. C. Berkery, Pvt. C. H. Brochhagen, Pfc. P. J. Bryson, Pfc. C. G. Buchta Jr., Pvt. W. F. Carrick, Pvt. M. R. Casnave, Pvt. K. S. Christensen, Pfc. D. A. Collick, Pvt. M. R. Conrad, Pvt. C. J. David, Pfc. J. A. Dawson, Pvt. W. S. Delery, Pvt. M. R. DiMatteo, Pfc. J. D. Doucet, Pvt. T. P. Dzierbicki, Pfc. G. O. Edwards, Pfc. M. W. Elliott, Pfc. M. A. Eskew, Pvt. C. L. Farlow, Pvt. S. K. Finn, Pfc. B. M. Flammia, Pvt. W. G. Glass, Pfc. M. W. Grandi, Pvt. D. I. Haines, Pfc. A. M. Hale, Pvt. R. T. Hartley Jr., Pvt. B. S. Hawke, Pvt. D. E. Heath III, Pvt. J. K. Hudson Jr., Pfc. B. M. Huffman, Pvt. W. J. Jackson Jr., Pvt. R. L. Jaikin, Pvt. C. A. Johnson, Pfc. S. P. Kelly, Pvt. J. T. Krausman, Pvt. C. J. Kuietauskas III, Pvt. A. S. Lakes, Pvt. T. M. Lee, Pvt. J. D. Leonard, Pvt. D. M. Loder, Pfc. M. R. Logan, Pvt. A. M. LoRiccio, Pvt. J. J. Markowitz, Pfc. S. R. Maynard, Pfc. D. A. McClintey, Pfc. T. O. Mosley, Pvt. K. T. Mungovan, Pfc. C. F. O'Donnell, Pvt. E. H. O'Meara, Pvt. D. A. Parson, Pvt. C. H. Patterson, Pvt. T. J. Porche, Pfc. J. C. Porter, Pvt. S. M. Powell, Pvt. B. C. Puckly, Pfc. J. W. Richardson, Pvt. Z. R. Riggs, Pvt. C. R. Rosa, Pvt. D. S. Sapp, Pvt. M. A. Savarese Jr., Pvt. J. R. Sawicki, Pfc. C. W. Schebor IV, Pvt. N. E. Scissons, Pvt. A. C. Secolic, Pvt. H. G. Shaak, Pvt. C. A. Shank, Pvt. K. A. Sherman-Boxton, Pfc. J. P. Slowinski, Pvt. S. C. Smith, Pvt. T. W. Spencer, Pfc. D. W. Steenberge, Pfc. R. P. Stevenson, Pvt. A. L. Stoops, Pvt. Z. R. Stroub, Pfc. J. L. Szabo, Pvt. M. N. Takinan, Pfc. S. F. Talarico, Pvt. T. J. Talbott, Pvt. C. A. Thibault, Pvt. B. J. Thibodeaux, Pvt. T. H. Tichenor, Pvt. L. M. Toomey, Pvt. B. N. Vondran, Pfc. I. J. Ward

Platoon 3093

Pfc. J. J. Baham, Pvt. J. A. Bazen, Pfc. D. A. Berman-Weatherby, Pvt. J. F. Blalock, Pvt. M. M. Blue, Pfc. J. F. Bradley, Pfc. J. K. Brooks, Pfc. S. W. Browdy, Pfc. J. W. Bush, Pvt. C. J. Colon, Pvt. J. P. Connolly-Davis, Pvt. A. Crisantos Jr., Pvt. J. T. Crotty Jr., Pfc. J. A. Cruz, Pvt. A. V. Deonandan, Pvt. K. J. Dickerson, Pfc. R. J. Dowl, Pvt. R. A. Downs III, Pfc. N. J. Faro, Pvt. W. R. Ferris, Pvt. R. D. Foster, Pfc. R. N. Fox, Pfc. C. F. Fuentes, Pfc. T. R. Gandt, Pvt. L. K. Gonzales, Pvt. J. E. Gotha, Pvt. N. M. Hibbert, Pvt. B. J. Hitchcock, Pvt. C. R. Hockenberry, Pfc. J. L. Huckleby, Pvt. M. L. Hulse, Pvt. O. B. Igwe, Pvt. C. J. Jose, Pfc. M. T. Kaestner, Pvt. B. M. Kainzbauer, Pvt. O. S. Latouche, Pvt. D. J. Lottie, Pvt. M. C. Lucenti, Pvt. B. M. McAvoy, Pvt. W. P. McCormack II, Pvt. M. J. McIndoe, Pfc. S. A. McKinney, Pvt. C. J. Melo, Pvt. C. A. Meyer, Pfc. K. S. Miller, Pvt. W. M. Monaghan, Pvt. M. T. Monopoli, Pvt. J. W. Murray, Pvt. C. C. Narain, Pvt. M. D. Nyanffor, Pvt. B. A. O'Donnell, Pfc. T. K. O'Neal, Pfc. J. J. Portillo-Lopez, Pvt. D. Presume, Pvt. A. M. Quinones Nieves, Pvt. J. E. Rabsatt, Pfc. C. D. Raver, Pvt. B. C. Reynolds, Pvt. A. D. Rocafort, Pfc. R. W. Rodriguez, Pfc. B. Roldan, Pfc. R. C. Sanchez Jr., Pvt. A. M. Schmale, Pfc. J. J. Schnackenberg, Pvt. W. Schneider, Pvt. P. M. Secor, Pfc. B. A. Seeber, Pvt. A. J. Sellers, Pvt. G. J. Sequeira, Pvt. S. M. Shaw, Pfc. J. L. Shepard, Pvt. M. K. Sliwiska-Mosiejczuk, Pvt. R. J. Smith, Pvt. J. A. Stack, Pvt. S. J. Stafford Jr., Pfc. J. A. Starling, Pvt. N. M. Stevens, Pvt. R. S. Sweetsmith Jr., Pvt. J. D. Taggart, Pfc. P. F. Thompson, Pfc. J. P. Tighe, Pfc. D. C. Tsay, Pvt. T. M. Vickers, Pvt. S. H. Wakefield, Pvt. P. W. Wensel, Pfc. G. D. Wolff

Platoon 3094

Pvt. F. I. Alvarez, Pvt. C. R. Ambrose, Pvt. J. M. Angel, Pfc. J. M. Arsenault, Pvt. A. H. Ball, Pvt. N. E. Biangel, Pvt. J. D. Binkney, Pfc. S. J. Browne, Pfc. R. G. Bryant, Pfc. J. M. Calil, Pvt. D. M. Caraballo, Pvt. N. R. Caride, Pfc. C. M. Carpenter, Pfc. D. A. Carreno, Pvt. M. A. Carstensen, Pvt. B. A. Castro, Pvt. A. T. Christensen, Pvt. E. B. Cortez, Pfc. R. C. Cox II, Pfc. A. R. Dauria, Pfc. D. M. Davies, Pvt. A. P. De Cosmo, Pvt. C. T. Delosh, Pfc. D. Echeverri, Pfc. R. R. Edwards, Pvt. A. R. Espinoza, Pfc. J. Fana, Pvt. R. F. Fox III, Pvt. J. C. Garcia Zavala, Pfc. M. P. Gilmartin, Pfc. C. R. Granados, Pfc. S. L. Grantham, Pvt. L. A. Guardado, Pvt. M. H. Jaeger, Pvt. F. D. Johnson, Pvt. B. L. Johnston, Pfc. M. D. Jones II, Pvt. D. A. Jones, Pvt. M. D. Karapcik, Pvt. S. Lamboy-Peterson, Pvt. G. Lopez, Pvt. K. J. Loudon, Pfc. R. M. Malone, Pfc. D. D. Martinez, Pfc. R. M. Matos Reyes, Pfc. M. J. McGarvey, Pfc. T. L. McGlinchey Jr., Pvt. R. J. McKenna, Pfc. S. A. Meadows, Pvt. A. J. Milanes, Pfc. J. J. Miller, Pvt. A. F. Molina, Pvt. J. L. Morant Jr., Pvt. D. H. Novoa, Pvt. L. M. Olyfeldt, Pvt. B. L. Ortiz, Pvt. J. R. Paramore Jr., Pvt. J. M. Perez Quinones, Pvt. N. Polanco, Pvt. C. E. Posso, Pvt. A. I. Quintero, Pvt. J. D. Robertson, Pvt. F. R. Rodriguez, Pvt. M. Rosales, Pvt. N. J. Rosa Rodriguez, Pvt. A. D. Russian, Pfc. A. A. Sanchez, Pvt. H. C. Sapp, Pfc. W. Serrano Jr., Pfc. J. T. Smith, Pfc. H. I. Sosa, Pfc. D. E. Stacy, Pfc. A. B. Stenback, Pvt. Z. J. Sweatman, Pvt. L. Vidals, Pvt. D. D. Wagner, Pvt. S. T. Waterstradt, Pvt. D. M. Weidler, Pfc. M. E. Whaling, Pvt. A. R. Williams, Pfc. B. L. Wirtz, Pfc. D. B. Worthing, Pvt. D. A. Wright, Pvt. A. A. Wynn, Pvt. B. B. Yanza, Pvt. J. A. Zavala, Pvt. Z. D. Zengewald, Pvt. W. Zhang

Platoon 4034

Pvt. A. E. Addison, Pfc. A. K. Albrecht, Pvt. N. Alejo, Pfc. N. C. Allmon, Pfc. G. E. Borey, Pvt. V. B. Boutsisomphone, Pfc. D. V. Bryant, Pfc. T. A. Butler, Pvt. S. O. Carbo, Pfc. C. L. Cardin, Pvt. A. K. Carraway, Pfc. L. M. Centola, Pfc. L. R. Chanady, Pfc. K. Costello, Pvt. A. D. Cummins, Pvt. K. M. Curry, Pvt. O. N. Day, Pfc. T. T. Dunn, Pfc. K. A. Dwyer, Pfc. B. R. Evans, Pvt. K. M. Faust, Pvt. L. S. Fountain, Pfc. D. E. Fuentes, Pvt. J. J. Gilbert, Pvt. C. D. Henderson, Pfc. N. R. Hernandez, Pfc. M. D. Higgins, Pvt. M. M. Hudson, Pvt. G. S. Jordan, Pfc. K. M. Keely, Pvt. S. M. Lloyd, Pvt. C. M. Mangyik, Pvt. T. A. Meyers, Pfc. A. Mijares, Pfc. B. Musick, Pvt. C. D. Palmer, Pvt. S. Perlaza, Pfc. C. L. Porter, Pfc. B. N. Portillo, Pvt. P. K. Rice, Pfc. M. A. Rinker, Pvt. K. R. Sargent, Pfc. B. A. Scheurer, Pvt. K. N. Schluetz, Pfc. A. Sifuentes, Pfc. E. C. Smith, Pvt. T. M. Smith, Pfc. S. L. Spears, Pvt. N. L. Stone, Pfc. J. M. Storch, Pvt. A. M. Taylor, Pfc. S. L. Weekly

Platoon 4035

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India dives into training

Lance Cpl. MaryAnn Hill

Staff Writer

The recruits of India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, completed their swim qualification at the recruit pool Sept. 24 on Parris Island.

Swim qualification consists of five events: the shallow-water assessment, self-rescue, staying on the surface, use of an improvised floatation device and underwater gear shed.

Staff Sgt. Ryan Pippin, a swim instructor at the recruit pool, said the events are designed to make recruits comfortable enough in the water to use the techniques whenever needed.

The main goal of swim qualification is to give recruits confidence in both their equipment and themselves in case they need to save their life or the lives of the Marines next to them, said Pippin.

The self-rescue consists of jumping off a 10-foot tower followed by swimming 25 meters to the side of the pool. This portion of the qualification simulates jumping off the side of a ship safely into the water.

Staying on the surface requires recruits to tread water or inflate their blouses to stay afloat for four minutes. This is one of the most important events to pass, as it would be applied in almost any water-survival situation, said Pippin.

"I didn't know you could use your blouse to stay afloat," said Pfc. Scott Maynard with Platoon 3092. "I thought it was a really cool trick, and very convenient."

The underwater gear shed happens in 10 seconds – the recruits shed a flak jacket, a Kevlar helmet and a plastic rifle.

Pippin said this event requires the recruits to move fast and focus on what they are doing.

All recruits get three attempts at each event, and if they fail one, they must start over.

"If I would have been in an emergency situation in the water before this qualification, I would not have been confident in myself at all," said Maynard, a 19-year-old from Detroit. "After this though, I feel confident in my abilities thanks to the instructors – they taught me everything I need to know."

With swim qualification out of their way, the recruits of India Company graduate today with more skills that could one day save their lives, or the Marine's next to them.



Photo by Lance Cpl. MaryAnn Hill

Recruits from India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, jump into the recruit pool wearing flak jackets and Kevlar helmets while carrying plastic rifles to conduct the underwater gear shed portion of their swim assessment Sept. 24 on Parris Island. Recruits must pass their swim assessments to graduate. India Company is scheduled to graduate today.



Photo by Lance Cpl. MaryAnn Hill

Rct. Stephen Harrington, 18, Platoon 3088, India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, practices saluting during a customs and courtesies class at the Recruit Training Facility on Parris Island on Sept. 5. Sgt. Cynthia Collier, an instructor at the RTF, taught the class to India Company, who is scheduled to graduate today.

India learns Marine Corps customs

Lance Cpl. MaryAnn Hill

Staff Writer

The recruits of India Company gathered at Parris Island's Recruit Training Facility on Sept. 5 where they learned the foundations of professionalism in the Marine Corps – customs, courtesies and traditions.

Customs, courtesies and traditions are taught to the recruits early in training because they are an integral part of a Marine's lifestyle, said Sgt. Cynthia Collier, an instructor at the facility.

The class covers many things, such as how and when to salute, how to embark and debark a ship, and how to give the proper greeting of the day.

"I didn't know there was a certain way to report onto a ship," said Pfc. Marque Jones II, Platoon 3094, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion. "I also didn't know you didn't salute higher enlisted ranks than your own."

The Corps' customs, courtesies and traditions are a few of the things that separate Marines from other members of the armed services.

"I can honestly say that no matter what

branch of service, we are all here to do the same job," said Collier, a 25-year-old from Los Angeles. "However, Marines are known for their traditions and how they carry and conduct themselves."

Recruit training is not only about the transformation of a civilian to a physically fit, basically-trained Marine, but a well-mannered, well-tempered human being, Collier said. Customs and courtesies show the recruits that no matter where they come from, they can all be changed.

"Customs and courtesies taught me that Marines do hold themselves to a higher standard," Jones said. "I also learned that there is a certain way I will hold myself when I become a Marine."

The Marine Corps works hard to maintain professionalism on and off duty, which is why Marines are taught customs and courtesies as recruits.

"I think if we didn't practice customs and courtesies the way we do, we wouldn't really stand out," Collier said. "America doesn't need a Marine Corps, it wants one."

The new Marines of India Company are scheduled to graduate today.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

Rct. Rudolph Hamelburg, Platoon 3088, India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, grew up in Africa during the Sierra Leone and Liberian civil wars. Hamelburg joined the Corps after Marines evacuated his family from the war zones. He felt he owed it to the Marines who saved his family to enlist, he said. Hamelburg is scheduled to graduate today.

MARINE JOINS CORPS TO REPAY DEBT

Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

Staff Writer

During a civil war in 1997, a 9-year-old boy was evacuated from Liberia with his family, and first set eyes on his future as he was helped into a helicopter by a U.S. Marine.

Pfc. Rudolph Hamelburg, Platoon 3088, India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, grew up in Africa during a time when Liberia and Sierra Leone were engulfed in civil wars. Along with his parents, two younger brothers and little sister, Hamelburg jumped from country to country for more than a decade until finally making it to the United States in 2009.

The first sign of hope for the family was when Marines evacuated hundreds of Liberians to Guinea in 1997.

"When the Marines rescued us, it was the best thing ever," Hamelburg said. "We didn't know what was going to happen to us or how we were going to leave that country. My family could have gotten killed, and I could have gotten killed as well."

Hamelburg said he wanted to be a Marine from that day. However, he knew his goal would be tough to accomplish while in Africa, he said.

During the early 1990s, the people of Liberia lived in caution of one another.

Hamelburg said he remembered there being a curfew in a town his family lived in. He said he remembered not opening the doors after dark. Families stayed inside even if there was a knock at the door.

"Sometimes they used to go door to door," said Hamelburg, referring to the groups of men who would torment the people of Liberia and Sierra Leone. "They would break into homes, rape and murder families. They would sometimes take the children away."

The family couldn't find relief anywhere. They would move back to one country as the fighting seemed to settle, just in time for conflict to rise again.

The war zone Hamelburg and his family lived in were not the only problems they faced.

"All we had to eat was rice, and we had to eat a small amount for the entire day," said Hamelburg. "We had no clean water. We had to get drinking water from the well and had to Clorox the water to purify it and get rid of the cholera."

The family again settled in Sierra Leone where the Marines evacuated more than 700 Liberians. Among these refugees were Hamelburg and his family. They were taken first by air, and then by ship to Guinea.

The family only spent a year in Guinea because Hamelburg's father could not find work.

Things started looking brighter for the family in 1998 when Hamelburg's father found a job in Liberia and the war settled. However, just as they thought they had found a safe haven, Hamelburg's father was killed in a plane crash the following August.

Hamelburg's mother took care of the family and moved them back to Sierra Leone only to move twice more before settling in Liberia.

In 2002, Hamelburg's mother met and fell in love with a Liberian man, whom she married several years later. Her new husband had a green card, as he had worked in the states previously. Papers were filled out and the family moved to the United States in 2009, finally escaping the civil wars.

The family settled in Atlanta where Hamelburg sought out a Marine recruiter. Hamelburg said that in order to repay the Marines for rescuing his family, he decided to join and fight for the U.S. and, if necessary, all around the world.

Hamelburg needed college credits in order to enlist because he had not completed high school.

He worked to earn the money to pay for a year's tuition. He then attended college for two semesters and earned his credits.

He went to a military entrance processing station and enlisted in the Marine Corps on June 5.

Hamelburg had no idea what recruit training would be like despite his motivation to join the Corps. He had not done any research, and therefore had no expectations, he said.

"It's not bad, considering where I came from," said Hamelburg. "You never know what's coming next. But I know my goal, and I know why I'm here, so I'll give it all I've got."

With the mindset of a survivor, Hamelburg overcame every obstacle in his path. He said he not only became self-confident, but received guidance for life from his drill instructors during recruit training.

Hamelburg has faced adversity all his life. Today, he begins his new life as a Marine.

NEWS BRIEFS

Notice to Mariners

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island is scheduled to conduct extended live-fire training Monday through Thursday from 6 a.m. to midnight. The marsh and waterways in the range impact area, to include Archers Creek, Ribbon Creek and Edding Creek, will be closed to boater traffic.

For questions regarding firing times and waterway closures, please contact the Weapons and Field Training Battalion Range Control at 228-3170.

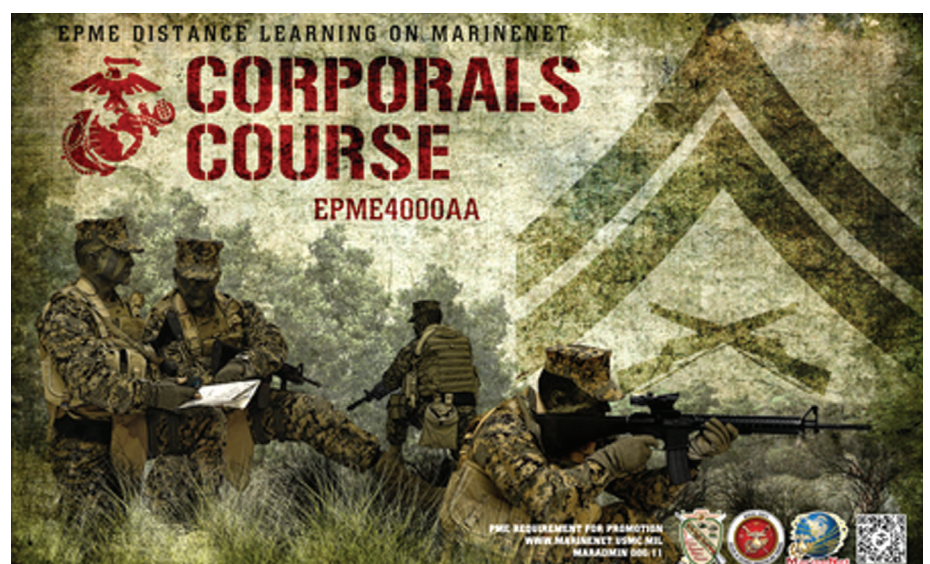




Photo by Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda

Rct. Dakota Frickson, Platoon 4035, Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, crawls during a portion of her combat fitness test Nov. 5 on Parris Island. The combat fitness test is not only a requirement to graduate, but it helps build confidence and readiness in recruits. Papa Company is scheduled to graduate today.

Papa passes CFT

Lance Cpl. Caitlin Maluda
Staff Writer

The recruits of Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, learned the value of endurance and unselfishness during their combat fitness test Nov. 5 on Parris Island.

According to Sgt. Latoya Carty, a drill instructor for Platoon 4035, the overall goal of the combat fitness test is to build confidence in the recruits' abilities to one day save someone's life, even when they feel they cannot go on.

Recruits completed a series of events that challenged their mental and physical stamina during the CFT. They knew they had to complete the mission even as they battled their tiring bodies.

The CFT is scored on three events. Recruits must lift a 30-pound ammunition can as many times as possible in a two-minute period, run 880 meters while wearing utility trousers and boots, and complete a movement course that requires recruits to sprint with ammunition cans, crawl, and drag and carry another recruit as

quickly as possible.

One day, these recruits may be placed in dangerous situations while deployed, said Carty, a 27-year-old from Kinston, N.C. If someone is injured, the first priority is to get the injured to safety.

Pvt. Kate Steiner, Platoon 4035, said that during the course, she felt physically exhausted, but pushed through each step to make it to the end. She said even though she was completely drained of energy, she knew combat readiness was her ultimate goal.

Quitting does not exist, said 19-year-old Pfc. Bailey Fox, Platoon 4035, from Ashland, Neb. She said she knew after completing the CFT that if she needed to drag someone to safety, she could overlook her own fatigue and hopefully save the life of another.

These young ladies have learned to look past their own discomforts and put the needs of others before themselves. As Marines, they take on that responsibility as they walk proudly across the Peatross Parade Deck today.

Gas chamber no match for Papa Company

Lance Cpl. MaryAnn Hill
Staff Writer

The recruits of Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, completed their training inside the gas chamber Oct. 2 on Parris Island after enduring the chamber's unfavorable conditions.

The gas used in the chamber is made up of microscopic crystals that seep into the pores of the skin, travel through the respiratory system and settle on the eyes, causing severe burning and irritation, and gives the illusion that one cannot breathe, said Sgt. Othello Walker, a chemical defense instructor at the gas chamber.

The recruits are rushed into the chamber 25 at a time and instructed to do jumping jacks and several other exercises while wearing a gas mask.

"We make the recruits do the exercises to show them that no matter what their range of motion, their gas masks will stay on and work just the same," said Walker, a 24-year-old from Columbus, Ga.

The crystallized gas is then released into the air and recruits are instructed to hold their breath, close their eyes and break the seal of their masks. However, some recruits were shocked by the effects of the gas and lost their composure.

"The first breath was the worst," said Rct. Gillian Borey, Platoon 4034. "Then when I accidentally opened my eyes, they burned too."

The entire process lasts about three minutes, but it seems eternal for some recruits because they do not stay calm or listen to instructions given, Walker said.

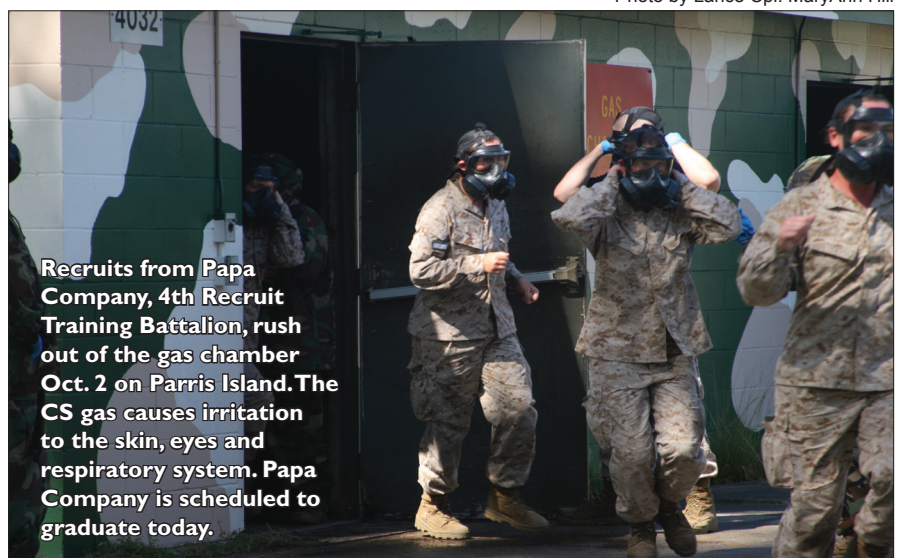
"At first, I was really nervous because I had seen my [fellow recruits] come out panicking," said Borey. "After I went in and got out, it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be, as long as I kept calm and remembered what my drill instructors told me to do – focus on what the instructor was telling us."

Borey said some recruits lacked the discipline to stay in place and not run for the door while in the chamber. She said seeing the other recruits panicking scared her, but made her concentrate on the task at hand.

"This experience taught me discipline," said Borey. "I was really proud of myself for finishing it, and not everyone can say they have walked into a gas chamber and completed it."

When Papa Company graduates today, the gas chamber will be just a memory, one they all conquered and completed.

Photo by Lance Cpl. MaryAnn Hill



Recruits from Papa Company, 4th Recruit Training Battalion, rush out of the gas chamber Oct. 2 on Parris Island. The CS gas causes irritation to the skin, eyes and respiratory system. Papa Company is scheduled to graduate today.



Sgt. Cordero Gonzalez, center, squad leader, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 7, introduces himself to Afghan National Army Sgt. Gulagh, right, team leader, 1st Tolai, 1st Kandak, 4th Brigade, 215th Corps, before a partnered patrol Nov. 16. The partnered patrols allow Marines to mentor and teach the ANA soldiers while working beside their Afghan counterparts.

Photo by Kristen Wong

Marines teach Afghan army proper patrols, tactics

Cpl. Timothy Lenzo

I Marine Expeditionary Force

SOUTHERN HELMAND PROVINCE, Afghanistan – The Afghan sun beat down on the patrol and gusts of wind threw sand and dirt on the faces of the men as they talked to locals in search for insurgent activity.

The patrol, led by an Afghan National Army fire team with Marines in a support and advisory role, walked by mud compounds, cornfields and water systems. Curious children came out to watch the patrol, with some of the more bold children venturing out to receive a lollipop or candy bar.

“We went on a census patrol to get an idea of the surrounding area and people,” said Cpl. Anthony Middleton, team leader, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 7.

Afghan soldiers received hands-on training with the Marines during the patrol.

“We taught them (squad and fire team) formations and dispersions,” said Middleton, from Lompoc, Calif. “We showed them how far they should be from each other, the best places to set up security and how to properly wear their gear.”

The Marines and ANA soldiers with the newly formed 4th Brigade, 215th Corps, went to several

compounds and talked to the men and joked with the children.

While ANA Sgt. Gulagh, team leader, 1st Tolai, 1st Kandak, 4th Brigade, 215th Corps, talked to one local, Middleton advised the Afghan soldiers where to set up security. The interpreter was with the squad leader and the ANA team leader, so Middleton used hand gestures and sound effects to relay his message. Making gunshot sounds and large gestures brought a smile to the local Afghan boys who came out to watch the patrol, but the ANA soldiers understood. Soon they posted security, covering the patrol’s front and sides while Marines filled in the gaps.

“We let their sergeant run them, and we coach them in the right direction,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class Marzell Scott, a corpsman with the company. “I think they take that better than our guys telling them what to do. It also builds their leadership and strengthens their (noncommissioned officers).”

For Marines, small-unit leadership begins during recruit training and is emphasized in each infantry company. It is something the Marines passed on to the Afghans.

“Once I explained to Sgt. Gulagh what his soldiers should be doing, he got motivated to set up his men in security positions,” Middleton said.

At the next stop, it was Gulagh setting up his team

in security positions, pointing out a cornfield that he wanted to be covered while he talked to an owner of a compound. It showed how quickly the Afghans grasped what the Marines taught them.

“He reminded me of how a squad leader is supposed to act,” said Scott, from High Point, N.C. “He got on his men to post security and stayed on them to make sure they did the right thing without us telling him.”

The Afghans learn just as much from observing how the Marines patrol than from the classes they receive.

“Once (Gulagh) watches us do it with our men, it seems like he mimics us with his men,” said Middleton. “They learn from watching us and it seems like they are picking it up faster and faster.”

While the patrol was a learning experience for the Afghans, they still focused on their mission. They spoke to several locals about any complaints or needs and learned more about the surrounding area.

The Marines with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, recently took control of the area and are already putting their stamp on the region. They are proactively training and teaching the Afghan National Army soldiers to take command of patrols and eventually work independently from outside sources.