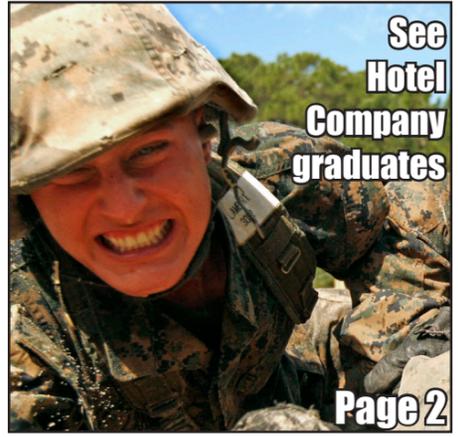


THE PARRIS ISLAND BOOT



See
Hotel
Company
graduates

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Hotel Company prepares for training



Photo by Lance Cpl. F.J. Abundes

Cpl. Jose Rodriguezsario, an armorer, teaches the new recruits with Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, about their newly issued weapons, Dec. 9, 2011.

Ukrainian takes hard road, becomes Marine

Lance Cpl.
F.J. Abundes
Staff Writer

He looked up at the ceiling, as if the words he was looking for were writ-

ten there. He knew what he wanted to say, but did not know how to say it in the language the Marine would understand.

After stuttering a bit and regaining his bear-

ing, Pfc. Vsevolod Lytvyn found the words he wanted to express.

"I want to achieve something here that I could not have in Ukraine, for better opportunities."

The 22-year-old from Uzhgorod, Ukraine, will graduate today with Platoon 2020, Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, after 13 weeks of intense training.

He is above average, said Sgt. Marco Martinez, Lytvyn's senior drill instructor. He is physically strong, an expert rifleman and has a hunger for knowledge. His humble confidence gives him an edge over the rest of the recruits.

Lytvyn arrived on American soil after his father won the United States green card lottery.

According to the program's website, the green card lottery allows poten-

SEE UKRAINE PAGE 3



Special to the Boot

Pfc. Vsevolod Lytvyn, originally from Uzhgorod, Ukraine, joined the Marines a few months after coming to the United States in late 2011.



Photo by Lance Cpl. F.J. Abundes

Rct. Alexander Probus, Platoon 2021, Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, sets his sights down range at the target he is qualifying on, Jan. 27.

Hotel heats up firing line at range

Lance Cpl. F.J. Abundes
Staff Writer

They had four days to practice shooting a weapon they had never fired before, and two of those days thick fog had hindered their allotted time.

Now, the recruits from Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, had to qualify using their M16-A4 rifles while fighting strong gusts of wind and drizzling rain, which blurred their vision.

Some were worried, but after applying their fundamentals they had been taught, the company walked away with

more than 300 qualified riflemen. "If you're confident in what you're doing, you realize that the shooter controls the rifle. The rifle doesn't control the shooter," said Pfc. Timothy Perez, from Harrisburg, Pa.

Perez said that once he calmed down and applied everything he was taught by his primary marksmanship instructor, he could shoot the desired four-and-five-point shots.

Shots are scored on a one to five scale, five being the most accurate shot.

SEE RANGE PAGE 4

NEWS BRIEFS

Notice to boaters

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island will be conducting extended live-fire training Monday from 6 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. The marsh and waterways in the range impact area to include Archers Creek, Ribbon Creek and Edging 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 843-228-3170.

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Living History Detachment passes heritage to recruits

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Marines train with Canadian Army

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Facebook Spotlight

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HOTEL COMPANY GRADUATES

Company Honor Graduates

Pfc. C. L. Acord, Sanford, N.C.
Platoon 2016, Acord was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Briand and trained by Staff Sgt. Mota

Pfc. Z. Chen, Sterling Heights, Mich.
Platoon 2018, Chen was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Sheely and trained by Staff Sgt. Kenyon

Pfc. T. P. Grottendick, Sussex, N.J.
Platoon 2021, Grottendick was recruited by
Sgt. Ventreno and trained by Sgt. Cook

Pfc. J. D. Hilsinger, Stafford, Va.
Platoon 2017, Hilsinger was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Harrell and trained by Staff Sgt. Woods

Pfc. C. B. Hair Jr., Fairview, Tenn.
Platoon 2020, Hair was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Naff and trained by Staff Sgt. Martinez

Pfc. J. T. Whitley, Concord, N.C.
Platoon 2022, Whitley was recruited by
Staff Sgt. Inthalasy and trained by Staff Sgt. Sullivan

Platoon 2016

Pfc. C. L. Acord, Pvt. A. D. Bailey, Pfc. J. I. Ballard, Pvt. E. L. Banks II, Pfc. R. S. Baskerville Jr., Pfc. B. D. Beach Jr., Pvt. J. L. Billue, Pfc. C. Bonillareyes, Pfc. M. R. Bright, Pfc. C. J. Brigman, Pvt. S. W. Brown, Pfc. R. K. Bryant, Pfc. M. A. Caldwell, Pvt. D. D. Cherry, Pfc. S. Chhe, Pvt. J. M. Cordero Jr., Pvt. C. J. Craig, Pfc. J. W. Cuby, Pvt. J. L. Drake III, Pfc. D. M. Egan, Pfc. Z. J. Ellis, Pvt. M. H. Fortenberry, Pfc. C. D. Giles, Pfc. M. P. Gladden, Pvt. D. J. Hagel, Pvt. R. D. Hall, Pvt. J. R. Hamilton, Pvt. N. A. Kennedycrosby, Pvt. J. D. Kerley, Pvt. D. W. Kern, Pvt. D. B. Knox, Pvt. K. K. Lynn, Pvt. P. D. Macon, Pfc. T. V. Martinez, Pfc. S. R. McClary, Pvt. C. Y. McDonald Jr., Pvt. A. J. McKinney, Pvt. E. J. McNure, Pfc. E. A. Miller III, Pvt. D. L. Milton, Pvt. D. M. Moyer II, Pvt. M. L. Murphy, Pfc. D. M. Patenaude, Pvt. S. A. Pena, Pvt. T. M. Pinion Jr., Pvt. A. S. Porter, Pfc. J. C. Pritchett Jr., Pfc. A. P. Reddish, Pfc. D. A. Regan, Pvt. A. C. Sheats, Pfc. J. L. Smith, Pvt. S. M. Stelter, Pfc. R. E. Stenzinger, Pvt. D. A. Thompson, Pvt. T. J. Thompson, Pvt. S. T. Tillman, Pvt. C. D. Toliver, Pvt. R. C. Uanino, Pfc. J. T. Walker, Pfc. J. J. Welborn, Pvt. D. M. White, Pfc. A. J. Wilkinson, Pvt. L. E. Williams Jr., Pfc. M. E. Williams, Pvt. T. M. Williams, Pvt. K. D. Winn, Pvt. M. D. Wright

Platoon 2017

Pvt. B. R. Allen, Pvt. B. V. Bailey, Pfc. T. C. Bravo, Pvt. D. M. Bryant, Pvt. J. R. Buckner, Pvt. E. T. Burcham, Pfc. J. A. Burkhart, Pvt. T. J. Cook, Pfc. J. W. Crippen, Pvt. B. O. Davis, Pfc. M. Dmochowski, Pvt. E. C. Dotson, Pfc. P. L. Dowdy, Pfc. C. V. Enriquez, Pvt. K. A. Gable, Pfc. E. B. Gainer, Pvt. E. M. Gallimore, Pvt. N. R. Garcia, Pfc. J. M. Geromette, Pfc. G. E. Gethmann, Pvt. C. A. Gonzalez, Pvt. M. T. Goodwin, Pvt. J. E. Hall, Pfc. T. C. Heidt, Pvt. S. W. Henry, Pvt. J. A. Hernandez, Pvt. R. D. Hernandez, Pvt. T. R. Hightower, Pfc. J. D. Hilsinger, Pfc. D. J. Hoffman, Pvt. K. D. Holbert, Pvt. J. V. Jernigan, Pvt. D. J. Kelly III, Pvt. R. R. Kiefer, Pfc. P. M. Kowalchuk, Pvt. J. D. Larkin, Pvt. R. E. Leshner Jr., Pvt. B. D. Little, Pfc. M. MacDougall, Pfc. J. A. Matney Jr., Pvt. A. M. Matticeallen, Pvt. A. M. McCann, Pvt. A. A. Moman, Pvt. G. C. Mosley, Pvt. B. M. Mullins Jr., Pvt. T. D. Olton, Pvt. J. A. Parker, Pvt. W. J. Perdue, Pfc. K. D. Phillips, Pfc. R. F. Pitts, Pvt. J. L. Puryear, Pvt. J. A. Quick, Pvt. P. J. Sears, Pvt. K. B. Stickler, Pvt. J. C. Stone, Pvt. B. S. Sturgill, Pvt. K. B. Suggs, Pvt. M. W. Thompson, Pfc. D. E. Trumpet, Pfc. R. P. Turner, Pvt. B. K. Tyre, Pvt. N. P. Vannest, Pfc. J. H. Warnes, Pvt. C. G. Wheeler Jr., Pvt. C. R. Wilkins, Pvt. P. K. Wolfe, Pfc. D. A. Yancey, Pvt. J. A. Zimmerman

Platoon 2018

Pvt. S. J. Airwyke, Pfc. C. W. Akromas, Pvt. J. M. Algarin, Pvt. R. C. Antenor, Pvt. O. K. Archer, Pfc. J. A. Ayalaburgos, Pvt. T. A. Bailey, Pfc. N. L. Behrens, Pfc. D. B. Boccuzzi, Pvt. D. H. Bowens, Pfc. N. P. Buchan, Pfc. R. Butler III, Pfc. D. I. Cardonasoto, Pvt. T. B. Carr Jr., Pfc. Z. Chen, Pfc. D. S. Clayton, Pvt. M. J. Cogswell, Pvt. J. D. Corcoran, Pvt. M. J. Correa, Pfc. R. A. Cross, Pfc. D. M. Cruz, Pvt. C. C. Eccles, Pvt. M. Elhachem, Pfc. G. W. Fera, Pvt. J. C. Frisher, Pvt. J. M. Gonzalez, Pvt. K. S. Green, Pfc. K. M. Greenhill, Pfc. D. J. Griffith, Pvt. J. C. Gummo, Pvt. L. T. Halligan, Pvt. B. J. Hart, Pfc. R. S. Hayes, Pvt. T. J. Hecht, Pvt. E. A. Hernandez, Pvt. J. D. Homberg, Pfc. J. S. Howe, Pvt. J. J. Huber, Pvt. M. Jeanlouis, Pvt. M. P. Jette, Pvt. S. W. Jones III, Pfc. Z. T. Lomison, Pvt. Z. A. Marvin, Pvt. S. A. Meier Jr., Pvt. C. J. Murray, Pvt. J. L. Nesmith, Pvt. C. J. Ochoajaya, Pfc. F. Ofarrill, Pfc. C. F. Parke, Pfc. J. Parra, Pvt. J. A. Peraza Jr., Pfc. S. L. Perez, Pvt. C. H. Peters Jr., Pfc. J. O. Pierre, Pvt. E. G. Ryan, Pvt. K. P. Ryan, Pvt. S. D. Sattaur, Pfc. N. A. Smith, Pfc. R. S. Snyder IV, Pvt. J. J. Springer, Pfc. A. C. Tabor, Pvt. M. G. Valentino, Pvt. H. C. Vanhorn, Pvt. G. C. Vazquezrenta, Pvt. B. C. Wellfield, Pvt. A. L. Wyatt

Platoon 2020

Pvt. R. T. Agnew Jr., Pvt. D. E. Allen, Pfc. J. M. Andrews, Pvt. K. F. Annunziata, Pvt. S. M. Ater, Pfc. K. H. Bowden, Pvt. S. D. Caldwell, Pfc. C. G. Campanali, Pvt. M. O. Campbell, Pfc. C. J. Carter, Pvt. R. A. Chamberlin, Pfc. A. R. Clark, Pvt. M. J. Corso, Pvt. C. J. Dandrea, Pvt. D. C. Dieterle, Pvt. B. A. Erdek, Pvt. J. D. Ferrer, Pvt. C. J. Fogarty, Pvt. S. D. Gibboney, Pvt. N. D. Goodine, Pfc. C. B. Hair Jr., Pfc. Z. S. Hamilton, Pfc. J. T. Hammonduran, Pfc. M. J. Harris, Pfc. S. W. Heustis, Pvt. P. A. Hibbert, Pfc. J. R. Hubbard Jr., Pvt. B. E. Hyde Jr., Pvt. P. M. Irizarry Jr., Pvt. L. T. Lambert, Pvt. T. E. Lekoy, Pfc. V. V. Lytvyn, Pvt. B. M. Maglioli, Pvt. A. Z. Mahon, Pvt. T. D. Malcolm, Pvt. L. J. Martinson, Pvt. M. M. Mautz, Pvt. J. S. McCord, Pvt. R. A. Moody, Pfc. J. K. Moore, Pfc. Q. T. Moore, Pfc. T. D. Moore, Pvt. S. D. Morocho, Pfc. P. Muzuri, Pfc. K. A. Nelsonstout, Pvt. A. Nieves, Pfc. J. K. Odom, Pfc. M. T. Padlo, Pvt. J. S. Parraga, Pfc. T. A. Perez, Pvt. E. M. Perfetuo, Pvt. M. B. Riveley, Pvt. J. A. Riverawatson, Pvt. C. W. Robinson, Pvt. D. J. Royce, Pvt. R. A. Scott, Pvt. A. J. Selima, Pfc. M. H. Shike, Pvt. A. M. Smith, Pvt. A. V. Standley, Pvt. M. A. Stanton, Pfc. A. J. Sturgell, Pfc. C. E. Veigle Jr., Pvt. O. J. Weiss, Pfc. C. A. Wetherell, Pvt. J. W. Wood Jr., Pvt. A. R. Woodard, Pfc. T. A. Woodard, Pvt. D. A. Zaniboni, Pfc. Y. A. Zogba

Platoon 2021

Pfc. L. M. Allen, Pfc. J. H. Barbery, Pvt. Y. N. Bartlette, Pvt. Y. Basir, Pvt. R. S. Bullock, Pvt. C. A. Cain, Pvt. N. M. Cella, Pvt. Z. M. Ciancarelli, Pfc. A. G. Cipoletti, Pvt. M. L. Claytorpeterson, Pvt. T. L. Conner, Pvt. R. L. Crespi, Pfc. D. Desousa, Pfc. A. A. Durio, Pfc. N. A. Eckman, Pfc. D. L. Finerman, Pvt. J. C. Fleitesbreakstone, Pvt. J. K. Goodroe Jr., Pvt. A. Granja, Pfc. T. P. Grottendick, Pvt. C. M. Hawkins, Pvt. M. A. Higgins, Pfc. T. J. Jardas, Pvt. T. W. Kaczynski, Pvt. R. C. Kapaczewski, Pfc. J. G. Kavanaugh Jr., Pfc. M. A. Keffler, Pfc. M. A. Laureano, Pvt. N. E. Lipsey, Pvt. C. L. Logsdon, Pvt. K. R. Macurak, Pfc. M. A. Magda, Pvt. R. L. Maley, Pfc. A. M. Martinezgarcia, Pvt. T. C. Maynard, Pvt. B. M. McClements, Pfc. K. G. McGarvey, Pvt. T. J. Meisegeier, Pvt. R. A. Mitnick, Pvt. T. I. Mowrey, Pvt. M. R. Nesbit, Pvt. M. P. Normand, Pfc. G. G. Ogilvie, Pfc. S. E. Okeefe, Pfc. M. B. Parker, Pvt. J. R. Perry, Pvt. A. F. Pierson, Pvt. A. S. Probus, Pfc. P. S. Rice, Pfc. J. M. Richard Jr., Pvt. K. D. Roberts, Pfc. J. E. Robles, Pvt. A. L. Rodriguez II, Pfc. M. D. Ruszczyk, Pvt. S. C. Sanabria, Pvt. C. D. Sarrazin, Pvt. B. M. Schneider, Pvt. T. J. Schopman, Pvt. B. E. Sharp, Pvt. W. B. Sparks II, Pvt. D. L. Sparks, Pvt. M. R. Standing, Pvt. M. T. Sturm, Pfc. N. J. Swartwood, ,Pvt. J. R. Tomco, Pvt. J. J. Wertz, Pfc. D. D. Williams II, Pfc. J. K. Wolfe

Platoon 2022

Pvt. A. W. Baker, Pvt. B. R. Baronette, Pfc. N. V. Barrios, Pvt. J. D. Blackwell, Pvt. N. C. Bowen, Pfc. T. J. Bowers, Pvt. N. A. Bradley, Pfc. C. M. Bratton, Pvt. D. E. Brouneus, Pfc. R. V. Brown, Pvt. L. A. Chamaidantutiven, Pfc. W. K. Cheng, Pvt. M. R. Cifuentesgranada, Pfc. N. F. Clausen, Pvt. J. S. Constable, Pfc. R. Deldrage, Pvt. E. S. Delude, Pfc. D. R. Eisele, Pfc. A. C. Fagen, Pvt. A. Fernandez, Pvt. A. M. Greene, Pvt. R. D. Gross, Pvt. A. M. Gutierreztorres, Pfc. K. J. Hall, Pvt. J. M. Hayden II, Pvt. C. B. Hewling, Pfc. R. M. Ingersoll, Pvt. J. T. Lambert, Pvt. B. A. Lewis, Pvt. C. J. Locke, Pfc. B. H. Martin, Pvt. C. A. Martin, Pvt. S. L. Meriweather, Pvt. W. J. Mills, Pvt. B. H. Mirandabarja, Pvt. T. J. Moran, Pvt. K. T. Noble, Pvt. B. N. Olesky, Pvt. C. D. Omlor, Pvt. W. T. Overholtzer, Pvt. A. A. Penavaldez, Pfc. E. E. Perkins II, Pfc. A. D. Phelps, Pvt. J. B. Pierce, Pvt. M. N. Preston, Pvt. D. K. Randall, Pvt. D. A. Richardson, Pfc. B. T. Russell, Pfc. C. V. Santoro, Pfc. Z. C. Schram, Pvt. C. A. Schroeder, Pvt. J. D. Scott, Pfc. R. A. Siwak, Pfc. K. A. Stein, Pfc. J. L. Swain, Pvt. D. J. Tate, Pvt. A. J. Valente III, Pvt. D. A. Walker, Pvt. J. C. Watson, Pfc. W. D. Watson, Pvt. C. D. Webb, Pvt. A. A. Whitehead, Pfc. J. T. Whitley, Pvt. M. J. Williams

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More of the story

UKRAINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tial immigrants to become a permanent legal resident of the U.S. The applicants are randomly selected in a lottery process as long as applicants meet the eligibility requirements.

Lytvyn said he hoped the move would help his dreams come true.

He recalled a memory from his childhood in which he sat in front of the television watching the Discovery Channel. A documentary of the American military was showing and he was in awe, he said. It was unreal for him.

After being in America for three months, and with the support of his family, he enlisted in the Marine Corps.

“Last year, he [spent] a lot of time for self-development,” said Vladimir Lytvyn, the Marine’s father. “He has [the opportunity] to become a good Marine.”

He chose the Marine Corps because he found it to be the most difficult after researching American military branches, Vsevolod Lytvyn said.

“I don’t like to take the easy way,” he explained. “I decided to join the Marines because I wanted to take the hardest path.”

Although he was challenged physically

and mentally at first, Vsevolod Lytvyn said he adapted to the stress on his body and mind.

His senior drill instructor noticed his potential and made him a squad leader, a position that put him in charge of 25 percent of the platoon.

Vsevolod Lytvyn does more than what the minimum is to accomplish a mission, Martinez said.

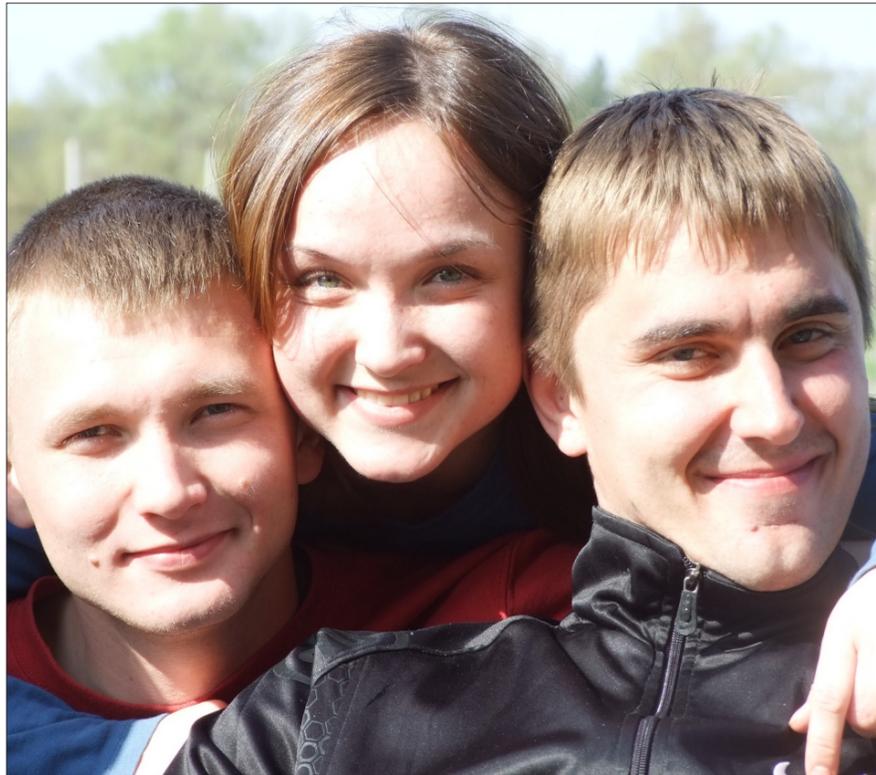
“He’s not a recruit just trying to get by,” he added. “He knows he can do it, but he wants to do it good. The urge to succeed and do better drives him.”

Vsevolod Lytvyn excelled through recruit training. His only challenge was the language every other recruit spoke naturally.

Martinez noticed it too and said it affected Vsevolod’s ability to lead, but improved throughout training.

Vladimir Lytvyn said Vsevolod Lytvyn is living his dreams because he is making himself into what he has always wanted to be – a United States Marine.

“Service in [the] Marine Corps will make him physically and mentally stronger and more responsible for himself and for the people around him – he will [learn] what brothers in arms means,” Vladimir Lytvyn said. “It will be an irreplaceable experience for all of his life.”



Special to the Boot

Pfc. Vsevolod Lytvyn (left) with his family in Ukraine before he enlisted.



Photo by Lance Cpl. F.J. Abundes

Pfc. Vsevolod Lytvyn salutes the flag at the Iwo Jima monument at the main parade deck on Parris Island.



Special to the Boot

Pfc. Vsevolod Lytvyn, who will graduate today, waits to have his rifle inspected.

RANGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“You have to know how to manipulate your rifle in combat,” said Sgt. Ryan Daville, one of the primary marksmanship instructors. “This is where it all starts. Once you get a concept down here, it makes it easier to progress in marksmanship.”

Some of the fundamentals taught are breathing control, sight adjustment and alignment and how to hold the weapon. Recruits are also taught to annotate their shots.

Daville said even with proper instruction, recruits are often uneasy around the weapon. It takes them shooting the weapon and familiarizing themselves with it to better grasp the fundamentals.

“I thought it was going to be [scary] at first be-



Photos by Lance Cpl. F.J. Abundes

Rct. Ricardo Crespi, Platoon 2021, Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, shoots in the sitting position, Jan. 27.

cause I had never shot a weapon before,” Perez said. “With that first shot that I took, I realized that

it was not even close to how bad I thought it was going to be.”

It is important to learn to shoot here because if a Marine can’t shoot, their life may be at risk; especially with how often Marines are in combat, said Pfc. Vsevolod Lytvyn, of Platoon 2020 and a 22-year-old from Uzhgorod, Ukraine.

“The first time, I was concerned about how I was going to shoot,” Lytvyn said. “Now I feel confident with the rifle.”

The coaches at the rifle range give instructions and tips from personal experience to help the new shooters become stronger rifleman.

“[Coaches] notice details the shooters do not,” Perez said. “I thought I was applying the fundamentals, but when there’s someone there who actually knows what they’re doing, it gets you to shoot that four or five.”

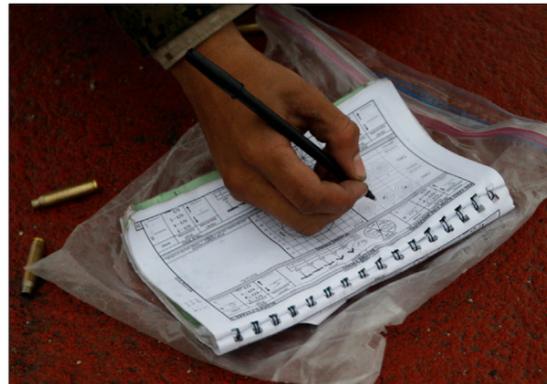
Once recruits are comfortable with their weapon, Perez said there are still challenges to overcome.

Perez said it was easy for

him to get overconfident after the first day of firing the rifle. It wasn’t until the second day, when he was not shooting as well, that he realized he still had a lot to learn and needed to focus because he could always shoot better.

With that, Perez offered advice to future recruits who will one day qualify on the range.

“Focus on what your PMIs tell you and don’t get ahead of yourself,” he said. “Apply everything – every step, every time,



A recruit annotates his shot in his range book. The books help the recruits keep track of their sight adjustments.



Rct. Sterling Meriweather, Platoon 2022, shoots in the standing position at the 200-yard line.



Rct. Jonathan Tomco, Platoon 2021, reloads his rifle after finishing a string of shots in the sitting position at the 200-yard line.



Recruits observe the targets and write their scores down on the range.

Living History Detachment brings tangibility to Corps' past

Cpl. Erin Tansey
News designer

The Marine Corps has built its reputation on the deeds of those who served before the current generation. The dedicated members of the Living History Detachment strive to keep the fire of former warriors burning strong in the recruits of Parris Island.

On Feb. 25, four members of the detachment, which is part at the Parris Island Historical and Museum Society, motivated the new Marines of Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, and completed the last leg of the Crucible hike alongside the company.

What started as Steven Price, acting gunnery sergeant of the detachment, coming by the Parris Island Museum on Saturdays to talk with the recruits that visited the museum, turned into a small group of dedicated history fanatics who actively work to leave a unique impact on recruits, said Eric Junger, commanding officer of the detachment.

Price and Junger put together a small class once

a month for recruits. Junger said these classes showcase weaponry from two of the most important moments in Marine Corps History — the two world wars.

These were pivotal times for the Corps, said Junger, a Sylvania, Ga., native. World War I was when the Marine Corps moved from sea-based fleets and small units to being known for big battles such as Belleau Wood. The World War II campaigns proved Marines can adapt, overcome and persevere in any amphibious situation.

The classes use the importance of keeping true to the core values, to connect with modern wars and show they are the key to getting through the hard times every Marine is bound to face, he said.

Nearly eight years after Price started with his small displays, Junger said the members, both new and old, have yet to lose their passion for the monthly trips to the museum.

It wasn't until last year that the detachment decided to enhance the experience with the re-



Photos by Cpl. Erin Tansey

Steve Price (left) and Eric Junger (right), both original members of the Living History Detachment at Parris Island, hike with Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, Feb. 25. The detachment takes part in the Crucible hike once a month to motivate the recruits toward the Eagle, Globe and Anchor ceremony.

cruits. The new addition was a "pass and review" timeline along the wooded paths of Elliot's Beach at the beginning of the final nine-mile Crucible hike.

Members of the detachment line the forest and wait for the recruits to pass. Like ghosts from the past, they call the platoons to remember the battles and the Marines who came before them.

"The idea is to leave [the recruits] with more esprit de corps, show Marine Corps history, and make sure they don't forget it or let it down," said Price, a Savannah, Ga., native.

This impact is not a fleeting moment, and Junger said he has met up with Marines who have attended either the hikes or classes, and they said it made all the difference to them.

"It was surreal at first because it was different, and I was not expecting it," said Pfc. William Watson, with Platoon 2022, Hotel Company. "Once I figured

out what was going on, it was motivating. All the things [they] were saying — 'remember Cuba, remember Belleau Wood' — it became my cadence, and all my pain went away. My legs and feet didn't hurt anymore. It was cool."

After seeing the Living History Detachment's display during the hike, Watson added that he looks forward to a chance to do something similar in the future.

"I hope to come back and as a prior enlisted Marine to something for future recruits and Marines," added Watson, a Pittsburgh native. "What [the detachment] did for me, I want to do for them."

The members of the detachment say hearing from the recruits and Marines in charge of the battalions shows their work is appreciated by everyone who sees them, and that makes the hikes worthwhile.

"What makes the Marine Corps unique is that we all know our history, and it's enforced throughout [one's] time," Price said. "Other military organizations don't do that. We hope this helps enforce that importance and hopefully impact them in a good way."

The Marine Corps is known for its phrases such as "every Marine is a rifleman," but no words hold truer than "semper fidelis" (always faithful) and "once a Marine, always a Marine."

The members of the Living History Detachment continue to inspire the newest generations of Marines at their earliest stage as educators, both prior service and not, whose job of passing the torch is far from over.



Steve Winnen dresses in a World War I uniform during the hike.



Recruits from Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, gather around Eric Junger, who is in a World War I uniform, for a class on the weaponry used during the two World Wars, Feb. 25.



During the first leg of the Crucible, the Living History Detachment members line up along the woods at Elliot's Beach with smoke grenades to give an almost ghostly appearance.



Steven Price, acting gunnery sergeant of the Living History Detachment, hikes alongside Hotel Company as they walk the Iwo Jima monument.



Photos by Lance Cpl. F.J. Abundes

Staff Sgt. Aldo Verduzco, a drill instructor who processes recruits in their first week on Parris Island, orders the new members of Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, to move faster, Dec. 7, 2011.

WELCOME TO PARRIS ISLAND: HOTEL RUSHES THROUGH RECEIVING WEEK

Lance Cpl.
F.J. Abundes
Staff writer

Editor's note: "We make recruits" is a three-part series highlighting the events recruits endure during the first week of their journey to become Marines.

The new recruits of Hotel Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion were tired from the night before. Having just arrived at Parris Island, they were not accustomed to this lifestyle yet — the screaming, the rushing, the repeating of menial things. It was different.

"They think that [we're] going to be nice because their recruiters were nice," said Sgt. Korey Bromery, a processing drill instructor who works with recruits during the first week.

Even though it was difficult, their minds and bodies were slowly adapting to it.

"It makes you feel bigger than you are — to know you have to be this disciplined," said Rct. Tyler Lekoy, a 20-year-old from Plain City, Ohio. "It will get us out of our old habits."

Before they could begin training, the new recruits had to be medically and administratively processed. Their life in the Marine Corps had just started, so files and records would have to be created for each individual.

They had several ap-

pointments for the next three days and much to learn in between.

They had to set up the information for their military identification card, go to the medical and dental facilities, be issued their equipment, learn about their educational benefits, check their paperwork and be issued a weapon.

Depending on the group they are with, the recruits can begin processing in a number of places. Everyone is on a different schedule, but get the same tasks completed.

One of the most important parts of receiving week is the moment of truth.

"The moment of truth is the last opportunity that recruits have to clear their conscience and make sure they're not a fraudulent enlistment — to make sure that everything is correct in their records," said Master Sgt. Charles Rohm, recruit liaison section chief. "We're protecting the Marine Corps from the wrong people getting in."

Most often, issues are easy fixes, but if it is something that could potentially harm a recruit, it is taken seriously.

Another important part of the first week is the rifle issue. All Marines are rifleman and on the fourth day at Parris Island, the recruits get their best friend for the rest of training.

"They're scared to hold it," Bromery said. "A lot of these kids have never held weapons before. They think it's something that will kill them in their hands. So they're scared to walk fast — scared to hold it."

The drill instructors have to introduce the recruits to the basics of their weapons, including cleaning, Bromery said. They leave the in-depth information on using the rifles for later in training.

Receiving drill instructors take no chance in assuming a recruit might know how to do things properly. Recruits are taught everything the Marine Corps way. From how to eat meals, to how to make their beds, everything is broken down for them. They are even taught a new language.

How to speak, how to clean, military terminology, customs and courtesies — they have to learn all this before they are handed to their drill instructors for the rest of training, Bromery said.

On the last day before meeting their drill instructors, recruits take the initial strength test. The men must complete a minimum of two pullups, 44 crunches in a two minute time limit and run a mile and a half in at least 13 minutes and 30 seconds.

"We need to see they are ready to begin actual train-



Cpl. Jose Rodriguezsario, an armorer, teaches the new Hotel Company recruits about their newly issued weapons, Dec. 9, 2011.

ing," Bromery said. "Why send someone out there if they are destined to fail?"

If they cannot accomplish this, they are held back in training until they

are prepared. Recruits who pass are taken back to the squad bay to shower and change.

For the rest of the day, recruits prepare for their

permanent drill instructors' arrival. There was less than 24 hours left before they would learn what recruit training is really about.



A Hotel Company recruit does pullups during the initial strength test, Dec. 9, 2011. This is the first of three strength tests recruits must pass during training.



Hotel Company recruits do pullups as part of their initial strength test. The recruits must complete at least two pullups to start recruit training.

Marines and Canadian army take to the frozen field

Lance Cpl. Cory Polom
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

FORT PICKETT, Va. — After finishing a series of refresher exercises, Marines with 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, began training with the 36th Canadian Brigade, Feb. 20, as part of Exercise South Bound Trooper on Virginia Army National Guard Installation here.

The Marines, stationed out of Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., and their Canadian counterparts executed field scenarios using a Canadian training system called "Weapon Effects Simulator."

"This is a chance for us to showcase our skills and the way we conduct ourselves on the battlefield," said 1st Sgt.



Lance Cpl. Joshua Stewart, a team leader with B Battery, 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, provides security for a patrol.

Marcus Martinez, first sergeant of the battalion's B Battery. "We will also learn how the Canadian army does everything and maybe even learn a bit about ways to improve our tactics."

In today's Global War on Terror, the Marine Corps is accustomed to operating with foreign militaries, said Martinez, and the goal of South Bound Trooper is to reinforce the tactics used with allied forces.

This "Weapons Effects Simulator" system follows the same principles as laser tag with a vest worn by each combatant, linked by a computer and GPS system that tells the participant when they are hit, as well as the severity of the wound or if they have been killed, said Canadian army Maj. Michael Gervais, deputy commanding officer with 36th Canadian Brigade.

The gear is only a small part of this exercise, and the most important aspect is familiarizing the troops with their coalition partners, added Gervais.

"This is the first time we have worked with a Marine land section," he said. "The Marines of LAAD have shown us a lot of different tactics we can utilize, and that is what this exercise is supposed to bring around to us."

Seeing how the Marines do their job prepares the Canadians for possible integration during deployments in the future, said Gervais.

By working with the Canadians over the last week, they have been able to get extra work on their two main missions, which are ground-based air defense and providing security posts, said Capt. Jonathan Trizila, commanding officer of B Battery.

"This exercise has given us a means to hone our skills on a much larger unit level," Trizila said. "We usually have to simulate different events happening when training on our own."

Everyone, from lance corporals to staff noncommissioned officers learned a great deal during the exercise, Trizila said.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Cory Polom

Canadian army Sgt. Dave P. Standings, left, second in command with Cape Breton Highlanders attached to the 36th Canadian Brigade, and team leaders, Cpl. Eric Lanham, center, and Lance Cpl. Chad Angeli, with B Battery, 2nd Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, patrol a road on Fort Pickett, Va., Feb. 21.

"Working with the Canadians lets us see the bigger picture about tactics they use," said Cpl. Demingo Lara, a sec-

tion leader with B Battery. "This event makes Bravo Battery a better team of Marines."



Canadian army forces and Marines unload from a Navy SH-60 Seahawk at a landing zone.



Canadian Army Cpl. Stephane Hogue, left, a medic with 36th Canadian Brigade, and Lance Cpl. Chad Angeli, a team leader with B Battery, patrol a road during the training.

MCRD PARRIS ISLAND EXPANDED FAMILY DAY SCHEDULE

MCRD Parris Island has expanded the events and activities available to families who are coming aboard the Depot to see their son or daughter graduate and become a Marine. The adjacent schedule outlines the events that are now offered to our new Marines' families and loved ones. The times and locations of these events are subject to change. For the most current information, please visit <http://www.mccs-sc.com/recruitfamilies>.



Wednesday

Welcome to Family Orientation Day at Parris Island

- 6AM-10PM Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Open
- 6AM-6PM Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Food Court Open
- 7AM - 5PM Engraving Shop open
- 7:30AM - 4PM Douglas Visitors' Center open - please register upon arrival
- Java Café (9AM - 11:30AM)
- Graduation Station (8AM - 4PM)
- 9AM-4PM Family Check-in at the Douglas Visitors' Center; Java Café open 9AM - 12PM
- 10AM-12:30PM Marine Corps 101, including a "Behind the Scenes" tour, at Douglas Visitors' Center
- LUNCH Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club), Food Court, Subway, Golf Course, Back Yard Burgers
- 1:30PM-3:30PM Family Orientation Brief at the Lyceum
- 4PM Recruit Families' Meet & Greet at Traditions Lounge
- 5PM-8PM Steak Night at Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club). Reservations required

Thursday

Welcome to Family Liberty Day at Parris Island

- 6AM - 4PM Douglas Visitors' Center open - please register upon arrival
- Java Café (6AM - 2PM)
- Graduation Station (6AM - 4PM)
- 6AM-10PM Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Open
- 6AM-6PM Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Food Court Open
- 7AM - 5PM Engraving Shop open
- 7AM Motivational Run - Peatross Parade Deck
- 8AM Depot Museum Opens
- 8:15AM All Weather Training Facility (AWTF) Opens
- 9:30AM-10AM Battalion Commander's Brief to Families & Liberty Ceremony (AWTF)
- 10AM-2PM Marksmanship Training Unit Open House
- 10AM Liberty Begins
- 10:30AM-1PM Family Day Buffet at the Lyceum – new Marines eat for free!
- 2PM Warrior's Prayer at the Recruit Chapel
- 3PM Liberty Ends
- 3:00PM-4:00PM Marine Corps 101 at Four Winds Family Readiness Center
- 5:30PM-6:30PM Meet & Greet with Depot Command at Traditions Lounge
- 6:30PM-8:30PM Family Day Dinner with Depot Command at Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club) Advance reservations guarantee admittance

Friday

Welcome to Graduation Day at Parris Island

- 6AM - 2PM Douglas Visitors' Center open
- Java Café (6AM - 12PM)
- Graduation Station (6AM - 12PM)
- 6AM-10PM Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Open
- 6AM-6PM Marine Corps Exchange (MCX) Food Court Open
- 7AM - 5PM Engraving Shop open
- 7:45AM Morning Colors at Barrow Hall
- 9AM-10AM Graduation at Peatross Parade Deck (weather permitting)
- 11AM-1PM Lunch Buffet at Traditions (Officer/SNCO Club)

Facebook spotlights on Hotel Co.

for more visit www.facebook.com/ParrisIsland