

ON GUARD FOR THIRTEEN YEARS

the

SHAMROCK

of the Fightin' Irish Battalion of Notre Dame



"Hail and Farewell"

LTC Douglass R. Hemphill

Army units routinely hold "Hail and Farewell" gatherings to welcome new members and honor those who are leaving. Departing members are normally mentioned individually, but Butch threatened me with terminal writer's block if I used up his whole "Shamrock" that way. This "Hail and Farewell" will have to be a little more general, but it honors each of you no less for that.

First, the MSIII's, the first class I taught. Thanks for bearing with me through Professional Military Ethics. You've been the focus of attention this year, from "Late Night PT" to "Monday Night Camp Ball" to RIBPIN--and you've done so well that you'll be the focus of attention again this summer, along with 3100 plus other MSIII's. Ain't it great to be popular? I think there's very little you can't do in terms of the Fort Lewis experience. Remember that it's just one day at a time to be your best--six weeks total, with six days off for good behavior and one day being graduation--and that means five weeks to earn a "5." We're all looking for great things from you, and I know you're looking for the same results yourselves. I'll be there from June 3rd till July 26th to give you any moral support I can.

MSII's, I hope you enjoyed CPT Edwards, because you've got him

again next year. MSI's, that means you're off the hook for another year. Your two classes have been the spark that keeps the program fired up. From Drill Team, Color Guard and Basketball, to Rangers, Rifle Team and RIBPIN OPFOR, I mean it when I say we couldn't have done it without you. You've made yourselves a central part of everything the Fightin' Irish Battalion is and does. To those of you who are going to Camp Challenge, Airborne, Air Assault or Northern Warfare this summer, go get 'em. To all of you, enjoy the break you've earned.

OK, MSIV's. You were the first cadets I met last year, fresh from Fort Lewis Airborne/ Air Assault School and CTLT, and so full of enthusiasm and responsibility that you made my eyes water. You came on with hard-charging, smart leadership that didn't slack all year, and my only regret is that we didn't work together longer. Well, that's not really true. My other regret is that I won't be there to see the smiles on the faces of the officers and soldiers whose units you join.

Those of you who are going on active duty have a special challenge and reward waiting for you. There are soldiers out there who need you to dedicate yourself to leading them, with all that the word "Leading" implies.

You who are going into Reserve Forces assignments have perhaps an even tougher job. You have to be proficient twice, to bring the same ambition to your Reserve unit as you take to your civilian job. Without your leadership, a vital part of credible deterrence is weakened.

Those of you who are going on to graduate school have a related challenge. You'll be questioned every day about those things you value, and you'll be watched as a representative of the Army. How you respond and conduct yourself makes a difference in how others view what we believe is important.

I salute you all. Each of you has brought different degrees and types of involvement to the battalion, and I think you've each benefitted accordingly. Congratulate you on what you've done here and on the work you're about to begin in the Army, the academic world, and the civilian workplace. When you pin on the gold bars of a Second Lieutenant and take the oath to support and defend our Constitution, remember the words Father Hesburgh repeated at the Review: "Duty, Honor, Country"--"God, Country and Notre Dame." Keep those thoughts with you, in or out of uniform. It's been a real pleasure. Godspeed, and thanks for the warm fuzzy.

COMMANDER'S END OF THE YEAR SALUTE

At the end of any significant period of my life, I always seem to find myself in a very reflective mood. I try to learn from my past experiences—remember what was done well and remember mistakes and try to think of ways to avoid them in the future. More so than that, I try to develop a true appreciation for the events themselves.

Being the Commander of this Battalion has been a honor—a honor accompanied by a lot of hard work, but best of all a fantastic group of people to work with. It is people who make the Army what it is and it will continue to be that way. The people make the work worthwhile. If there was any piece of advice I could offer it would be learn how to work with and for the people around you. I always felt the most over-worked and unhappy when I failed to delegate some of the tasks I was assigned and tried to carry it all myself. The time I had most fun was when I had everyone working for a common purpose; that was when you really got to know someone. Do not forget to have fun in the Army; being a good commander is not all spit and polish, it is being human. Every person under your command is important. Use the pool of resources you have at hand and never forget they are people with feelings, problems, and so very much to offer. The troops truly do make the commander.

Best of luck to all of you in the future. Many thanks for all of your support during the tenure of my command.

Kerry L. McCarthy
C/LTC, Commanding
AKA: The Dragon Lady

Ranger Report

0400, 14 MAR 87: The temperature had dropped into the 40's during the night. Second platoon, Irish Ranger Company had been constructing their defensive position all night. The M60 had been placed with its PDF straight down the alley of death. Claymore mines had been positioned at key areas of the defensive perimeter. The position seemed secure from a dawn attack by the first platoon, Irish Ranger Company.

Suddenly, the quiet of the early morning was interrupted by the initial spark of a smoke cannister. First platoon was beginning the penetration of the defensive position. The attack, approximately two hours early, caught the second platoon under strength with a recon patrol still out in the woods of LeMans Military Academy. Second platoon Leader C/SFC Giovanni Katoriy called for an aerial flare so his troops could sight on the enemy platoon and riddle them with bullets and steel balls.

Thus began the Irish Ranger Company's Platoon Offense/Defense overnight FTX at LeMans Military Academy. The Irish Ranger CO travelled to LeMans by 2 1/2 ton trucks. Immediately upon arrival at LeMans, First and

Second platoons began constructing first rate defensive positions. Throughout the FTX the Irish Rangers utilized all the skills they had learned during the first and second semesters of this year. Recon and ambush patrols were sent out throughout the night to recon the enemy defensive positions, conduct route recons, and to ambush the enemy recon patrols.

C/SFC Mike Schellinger, on a highly unauthorized "harassment" patrol, low crawled close enough to the Second platoon's position to cut one of the wires leading to a claymore mine.

The Irish Rangers also utilized their platoon offensive and defensive techniques during the exercise. Through excellent teamwork and "good" training, both platoons avoided major Charlie Foxtrots over the course of the FTX. Throughout the weekend, all members of the Irish Ranger Company were challenged mentally, physically, and most importantly, in leadership roles. Once again--RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!

C/CPT Patrick J. Doyle
CDR, IDR

The Shamrock Staff

C/CPT Scott Cassidy PAO
C/CPL Kevin Gopon
C/PFC Michelle Mason
C/SSG Robin Squyres
C/SSG Ben Francis



University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

Office of the President

April 29, 1987

Cable Address "Bulac"

Graduating and soon-to-be Commissioned Officers
in the ROTC:

I would like to send a special word of commendation and congratulations to all of you who are graduating and will be commissioned officers on the day previous to your receiving your Notre Dame degree. This is a double distinction and I know that you will conduct yourselves with great pride, both as Notre Dame graduates and as officers in the Armed Forces.

Everywhere I have traveled in the world, I have met Notre Dame graduates who are likewise first-rate officers who portray a great sense of responsibility for the men under them and give great leadership in very important and responsible tasks. My own brother, Jim, was able to attend Notre Dame because of a Naval ROTC scholarship and served so well in the Navy that he was accepted into the Harvard Business School in the face of fierce competition. Much of what he learned about administrative responsibility came from years spent in command in the Navy.

I am sure many of you will share this experience whether you remain in active service or whether you go on to other careers. The years spent in service to your country will be well spent and your education here at Notre Dame will be put to very responsible use.

Wherever you go and whatever you do in the years ahead, be sure our prayers will follow you in your service to God, Country, and Notre Dame.

Ever devotedly in Notre Dame,

Father Ted Hesburgh, S.J.

(Rev.) Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.
President

Bravo Company

Well, another semester is almost finished, and I think I can assume that it was an experience for everyone. I thought Bravo once again proved their superiority by maintaining that high level of appearance and by remaining as highly motivated this semester as in the fall.

So many events have occurred since coming back from Christmas break: the Tri-Mil Ball, a wide variety of labs that emphasized practical instruction in communications, weapons, and of course drill (everyone's favorite), and most recently the Tri-Mil Presidential Review. Through it all, especially the Tuesday morning Fun Runs, Bravo has continued to hold a fantastic attitude, keeping a sense of perspective and humor when all any of us wanted to do was just not be there.

All of the MSIII's should be congratulated for their efforts this semester in trying to set high standards for the rest of the company, and who had to work hard to keep the chain of command running so smoothly. There has been a world of improvement since we began, and I'm confident we'll

all do pretty damn well this summer at camp.

The largest portion of recognition for the outstanding quality of Bravo definitely goes to the MSII's, who suffered another year without having the chance to prove they have the "Right Stuff." Next year you'll have that chance, just be sure to make the most of it. Again, my thanks for putting up with those times when the III's weren't sure of what they were doing (when you'd mutter "bolo" to your friends), for giving us a chance to prepare ourselves. Remember those times next year when you're called on to "lead the way."

Lastly, good luck to the officers of Bravo CO, who have given us models for the future, in whatever fields they pursue. Only a few weeks remain until no more worrying about shaves and haircuts, or that classic favorite, the front leanin' rest position, so let's continue to set that fine example you've all proven so very capable of. Remember people, Bravo leads the way!

C/1SG Paul Nobbe, Jr.

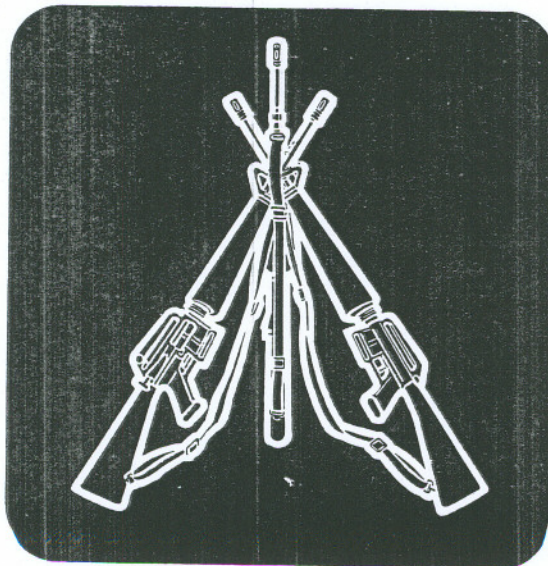
Rifle Team Report

Well, folks, this is it. This year has been very good for the Rifle Team and next year should be better. The trip to New Orleans was a complete success. We improved 500 points from last year's competition and socially we had the best of times. Once again we thank very much our cadre members SGT Thomas and Major Yacka. They were very patient with us all year round, especially in New Orleans.

Now that we are on the right track, get motivated because next year we are supposed to receive new weapons and most likely the team will be going back to New Orleans. Next year sophomores Ed Dieser, Kelly Townsend, Scott Murray and Eric Holloway should realize that shooting is not so difficult and there is always a lot to improve. Juniors Joe Lapyere, Dave Fortin, Kelly McGinley and Dean Wickle should always be looking for that perfect score. Finally, 1SGT Jean Critcher should not have any problems commanding this group of young individuals. I did not have any problems this year.

For the cadets out there, get involved in ROTC. Join one of the extracurricular activities and you will find out it is a lot of fun. Until the next time.

Always devoted to the Irish BN
C/CPT Luis A. Hernandez



"Speak well of your enemies. Remember, you made them."

—Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes

Alpha Company Report

The year quickly comes to an end. Some move on a new course, while others continue their current path. Both groups have accomplished much this year and we can look back and be proud of our progress; however, there are unending challenges to be met and obstacles to conquer. The future may be uncertain, but we do not lack the ability or confidence to prevail.

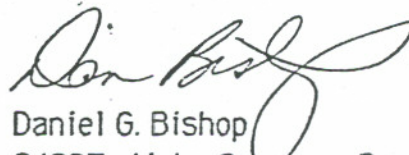
MSIV's, thanks for your support. We have accomplished our goals and still had some fun. Best of luck as we each go our own paths. Brian, the Infantry is going to cut that hair. Tim, your law school can't know what it's in for. Ray, I can see you as the next Maj. Yacka. And Eric, I'll see more of you later (hopefully with better cars).

MSIII's, you have come a long way. You have developed the confidence and bearing necessary to excel at camp. You have survived your toughest year and camp will be a piece of cake compared to the juggling act you performed this year. Enter Ft. Lewis with a good attitude, a willingness to give your all, and sincerity.

Pete, your job has been a demanding one (just putting up with Schellinger is job enough). It is amazing how many behind the scenes things are necessary to run a company, and you handled these admirably. Jeff, Ted, and Mike, organizing a platoon is no easy task either. I hope you have found your experience as rewarding as mine has been. Steve, Tony, John, Mike B., Mike F., Don, Paul, Brendan, Michelle, Rob, Mike W., and Sean, the smooth running of this company rested on your shoulders as well. Your standards have set the tone for the company, and I thank you for your efforts. Before you know it, you will be standing in the seniors shoes. Best of luck this summer and enjoy your last year a Notre Dame.

MSI's, it has been my privilege to serve as commander of your company. I cannot recall a Freshman class that has looked as sharp. You have been involved and given your all to ROTC. Continue next year to strive for excellence. You have what it takes to be a successful leader, but you must continually sharpen your skills. Get involved next year and continue the fine tradition that has been set before you. Soon you will be the ones responsible for running the Battalion. Have a great, safe summer.

Good-bye Notre Dame. We leave a place that holds experiences we will never relive, and memories I hope we shall never forget.



Daniel G. Bishop
C/CPT, Alpha Company Commander

The Real Army

Dear graduating cadets:

Peace be with you. I have been in the Army almost a year now and I would like to share my thoughts on OBC with you. I recently returned to Notre Dame for a visit and I remembered how I too wondered about the new journey I was about to commence.

My daily life is almost 180 degrees different from the life I led as a ND senior. Officer Basic Course, in my case Medical Service, served as a buffer and adequate primer to prepare me for my military service.

Know that each of us has great potential to be superior officers; your Notre Dame education and ROTC training far exceed the norm. You will be amazed that other officers around you in your OBC course are not like those around you now. Remember what you saw at camp last summer? Those same people will be with you at OBC.

Know too that you are incredibly gifted people. Your ND experience has allowed you to question the morality of nuclear weapons, the social injustice of Central America and the horror of Apartheid. Many of your peers will not care about these things nor of the mystery of the Trinity, the tenderness of friendships, or the specialness of a walk around St. Mary's lake. In essence, the Army is getting a very unique person when you enter into its ranks.

All of you will not only pass your OBC, but you will be among its top graduates. Instruction unfortunately is based upon rote

memorization. In other words, you will be undergoing training and not education. Classes will begin around 0800 and you will attend them with the rest of your platoon until 1630. All OBCs have training focused upon general Army officer skills; yes, once again you will learn how to use a CEOI, how to read a map, how to land navigate and how to assemble and disassemble an M-16. Of course, your branch specific OBC will focus upon training you to be competent in your individual branch.

All of you should bring four pairs of BDUs and two pairs of boots in addition to your greens. You'll be expected to buy your dress blues at OBC.

Every OBC has a formal dining-in at some point during its course. Don't hesitate to check the thrift shop for excellent buys.

I am very excited for all of you. Events in your lives will always be jaded in gold now that you've matriculated through ND. You will come to see how special you are as officers and people while you are attending your OBC. I believe that anyone with a Notre Dame education cannot possibly fail as an officer unless he or she really does not truly desire to serve in such a capacity. In a religious sense, take what you've gleaned from your ROTC experience under the Dome and go forth to serve others. Take care and best of luck!

LT Alan Ferry, ND '86

Drill Team Report

This was a very productive year for the Irish Marauders. This year's team, the largest in recent years, was marked by an injection of youth. The combination of highly motivated newcomers and seasoned veterans made for quality training, high morale, and fun times. The fall semester was spent teaching and refining the fundamentals of drill and ceremonies. This training also developed unit cohesion.

The spring semester was one of action. After a period of intense preparation, including many 6 am practices, the Marauders competed at the Purdue Invitational Drill Meet. The team fared well, bringing home a third place trophy in squad IDR competition. Sparked by this performance, the team embarked on another intense period of training, which culminated with a trip to New Orleans. While the city was warm and receptive, the competition at the Tulane Invitational was not. The team's performance was impressive, but no trophies were brought home.

A high degree of spirit was evident throughout the year. This spirit was not confined to the area of training. All the social gatherings were successes. There are fond memories of a lakeside evening, Dixie Beer, the French Quarter, and Mardi Gras parades. With such a strong base established, the future of the Marauders is bright.

C/2LT Chris Wohltmann

Number of female veterans in the United States as of the 1980 census:
1.2 million

A Leg's Diary of Airborne Training

ZERO DAY (THE BRIEFING):

I was met at the top of the steps in the ROTC building by Joe Schweninger telling me to "MOVE Gopon!" I lined up with the other "legs" in the hallway for some harassment from the "black hats" (cadets in charge of training). Then we went into a classroom for the briefing and to fill out forms. As we wrote, C/MAJ "AIRBORNE!" Pico (as we learned we were to address Airborne cadets) told all of us to get our hair cut by Monday. Oh, great. Mom's going to kill me.

Next, Joe introduced the black hats and told us who our stick leaders were (a stick is the Airborne equivalent of a squad). Thank God he didn't put me in the Grim Reaper's stick. I've only got C/MAJ Najera (only!?) to worry about. This will be interesting.

DAY 1:

At 0510 hours my alarm went off. I threw on my clothes and headed out. I went down the steps by the Rock, stopped at the street, and dropped for 10 push-ups. I crossed the street, dropped for 10 more and ran down the street between the ROTC building and the golf course. At the yellow line painted on the street, I dropped for yet 10 more, and then went to my yellow dot in the formation area. We fell in and the theme from "Patton" played in the distance.

"It's big entrance time," I thought. Sure enough, the black hats came marching over.

We started with inspection, if you want to call it that. It consisted of our stick leaders dropping all of us, looking us over, then sending us all to the GIG PIT, yelling at us the whole time. Oh why did they have to put Paul Nobbe in charge of the pit?

After that, we went to the pull-up bars and monkey bars, did

more push-ups, got yelled at some more, then formed up and road marched to Stepan for gorilla drills. I was so exhausted after that, I guess it showed. SFC "AIR ASSAULT!" Shuttleworth said, "You're a wimp. I don't think you're going to make it." Spiffy. Anyway, I make it back to the building for more push-ups, and yelling, and then they dismissed us. End day 1 at 0730 hours, thank God!

DAY 2:

We stretched out. Today the sound of Van Halen. It started the same--"inspection," yelling, push-ups yelling, gig pit, and oh, yes... did I mention yelling? Then, we all drew a weapon from supply to carry for a few laps around the lake. We were told to stop wherever there was a black hat for "instruction." I don't think I have to tell you what that meant.

After my first lap, C/MAJ "AIRBORNE!" Najera was looking for me to find out why I had only done two pull-ups. all I had to say was that C/CPT "AIRBORNE!" Shea had graded me today, and he understood. Two laps (with "instruction"), more PT, pull-ups and push-ups, and we were dismissed. End day 2, a little easier than day 1, but not much.

DAY 4:

We went back to Stepan today for some RIFLE PT! We learned the 4-up-squat, the 4-up-back, and the 4-up-bend, to say nothing of the ever-popular push-up. These are a group of exercises designed to have you hold an 8.69 lb. 1903-A3 Springfield rifle at arm's length for longer than is humanly possible. I made it throught the morning, but my arms didn't stop shaking until after my 9:30 class.

Oh, yeah, I also did something today I'll reeret for the rest of my

life. On the way back to the ROTC building, C/CPT "AIRBORNE!" Shea asked me a question and I brainlocked and called him "Air Assault." He was on me like a cheap suit, and my heart sank as I knew I had just become Tim "Mad Dog" Shea's pet project.

DAY 8:

The orange road guard's vest was passed to me as we were moving to the pull-up bar. I had been road guard on day 1, so I tried to get rid of it. I was no use, so I put it on and did okay until almost the end, when I got a funny feeling in my stomach. I fell out, leaned against a tree, and had the dry heaves. I got up, swore at myself, and started running. I even caught up before they finished, but I was still mad at myself. I vowed I would never fall out again.

DAY 9:

I volunteered to be road guard today, but we only ran to Stepan for gorilla drills and ran back. I've got to show myself and the black hats that last time was just a fluke!

DAY 11:

Today was the last day! They're cutting off the last three days on the schedule because they've already made up their minds. Now I just have to sweat it out until the O.M.L. (order of merit list) goes up.

DAY OF TRUTH:

The O.M.L. went up today-- I'm going! I kept looking at the sheet to make sure that was my name there. Gopon, class #39, 21 May-12 July. I'm glad it's over, but I'm going to miss parts of training. Training made me take a good look at myself, find my weaknesses, and push myself harder than ever before. I think it was well worth it.

C/CPL Kevin Gopon

The University of Notre Dame Fightin' Irish Battalion

Spring Awards Ceremony

30 April 1987

1630 hours

Hesburgh Library Auditorium

ARMY ROTC CORPS OF CADET AWARDS

APFT EXCELLENCE
BASKETBALL TEAM
CORBY HONOR SOCIETY
DRILL TEAM
RANGER COMPANY
RIFLE TEAM
SHAMROCK
SORIN CADET CLUB

PRESENTOR

Cdt. Michael P. Bald
Cdt. Eric K. Pritchard
Cdt. Timothy J. Shea
Cdt. Charles H. Rose III
Cdt. Patrick J. Doyle
Cdt. Luis Hernandez
Cdt. Scott E. Cassidy
Cdt. Eric A. Miller

PMS COMMENDATION AWARDS

MS IV

Brian L. Lantz

MS II

Eric P. Murray
Charles C. Wehnes
John P. Devine
Michael I. McCormick

MS III

Johannes M. Hacker

MS I

Mark J. Lowney
Daniel E. Lyons
Nicholas Rossi
Kellard N. Townsend
Matthew A Schlapp
Andrew Eisner

DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATES

Anthony M. Bevilacqua	Kerry L. McCarthy
Daniel G. Bishop	Eric A. Miller
Patrick J. Doyle	Peter F. Najera
Scott D. Fabian	Arturo R. Pico
Timothy L. Felker, Jr.	Charles H. Rose III
Michael R. Ferrick	Joseph M. Schweningen
Paul A. Guyse	Timothy J. Shea
Mark A. Jensen	Stephen J. Staresinic
Kevin J. Krull	

ARMY ROTC ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

MS IV

Daniel G. Bishop
Frank T. Pimentel
Timothy J. Shea
Stephen J. Staresinic

MS III

Michael P. Bald
Michael P. Cotter
Ronald P. Giometti, Jr.
Michael G. Schellinger
George S. Belin

MS II

Stephen J. Conner
Todd E. Hardiman
Kelly A. McGinley
Robin L. Squyres
Daniel R. Schneider

MS I

Paul M. Murphy
Kevin R. McKay
Angela M. Wimmer
John W. Crowe
Daniel E. Lyons
Christopher P. Govekar

AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II AWARD

Cdt. Jeffrey C. Torres

Presented by PMS

LEADERSHIP MEDAL

Cdt. Charles H. Rose III

Presented by PMS

ARMED FORCES COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION AWARD

Cdt. Johannes M. Hacker

Presented by Dean Marley,
College of Engineering

SONS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD

Cdt. Tyler D. Dorsey

Presented by
Mr. Wayne Roth

THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ROTC MEDAL

Cdt. Michael G. Schellinger

Presented by PMS

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS AWARD

Cdt. Daniel R. Schneider

Presented by PMS

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AWARD

Cdt. Casimir K. Crist

Presented by
Mr. Donald Mathis, Jr.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS AWARD

MSIII Cdt. Michelle E. Bradley

Presented by LTC Cook

MSII Cdt. Michael Stefanchik IV

Presented by LTC Cook

MSI Cdt. Kevin R. McKay

Presented by LTC Cook

AMERICAN DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS ASSOCIATION MEDAL

Cdt. Peter N. Witty

Presented by PMS

RESERVE OFFICER ASSOCIATION AWARDS

MSIV Cdt. Peter F. Najera

Presented

MSIII Cdt. Kenneth J. Duxbury

by

MSII Cdt. Stephen J. Conner

Colonel

MSI Cdt. Scott A. Jackson

Graffis

DAUGHTERS OF FOUNDERS & PATRIOTS OF AMERICA AWARD

Cdt. Angela M. Wimmer

Presented by PMS

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD

Cdt. Robin L. Squyres

Presented by Mrs. Robert N. Shaffer

INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION MEDAL

Cdt. Paul A. Guyse

Presented by LTC Kiefer

AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS

MSIV Military Excellence

Presented by

Cdt. Stephen J. Staresinic

MSIII Military Scholarship

Mr. Kenneth Lebo

Cdt. Michael P. Cotter

VFW ROTC MEDAL

Cdt. Brian L. Lantz

Presented by VFW Post #624

SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812 AWARD

Cdt. Kelly A. McGinley

Presented by PMS

ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AWARD

Cdt. Ronald P. Giometti

Presented by PMS

MILITARY HISTORY AWARD

Cdt. Edward V. Spinelli

Presented by PMS

SOCIETY OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEER ROTC AWARD

Cdt. Michael J. Bellon

Presented by Dean Marley
College of Engineering

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY SUPERIOR CADET AWARDS

MSIV Cdt. Daniel G. Bishop

Presented by

MSIII Cdt. Michael P. Bald

BDE CMDR

MSII Cdt. Todd E. Hardiman

Col. Louis A.K. Sylvester

MSI Cdt. Paul M. Murphy

PATRICK M. DIXON AWARD

Cdt. Kevin J. Krull

Presented by Ms. Kerry Dixon

DEPUTY COMMANDER'S AWARD

Cdt. Arturo Pico

Presented by PMS

REVEREND JOHN J. CAVANAUGH AWARD

Cdt. Michael R. Ferrick

Presented by
Monsignor Francis L. Sampson

BATTALION COMMANDERS' SABERS

Cdt. Kerry L. McCarthy

Presented by

Cdt. Joseph M. Schweningen

VFW Post #8748

GEORGE C. MARSHALL AWARD

Cdt. Joseph M. Schweningen

Presented by PMS

Juniors: Helpful Hints

7

1. 15' long string to align squad members and gear
2. Have boots shined when you first arrive. Don't spend the rest of camp keeping them that way. Black is fine.
3. When calling jodies for a company formation keep them simple and common to all. Save the innovation and creativity for platoon size movements.
4. Go ahead, buy a second pistol belt so you won't have to take your web gear on and off when only the belt is required for the uniform.
5. Wet-Ones are ideal for quick clean-ups and camo removal.
6. A small hand mirror will help in the field for camo checks and razor time.
7. A small lighter will prove handy to burn those little threads on freshly washed uniforms.
8. Off bug spray. Bugs are your friends.
9. When platoon leader, make coffee for your platoon sergeant.
10. Your ammo pouches will rarely be bulging with 5.56 mm. Use the space for extra socks, foot powder, etc.
11. Ziploc baggies are the best! Use them to protect everything.
12. If you really want to keep your weapon clean, make your own cleaning and scraping tools. Hammer the tip of a coat hanger flat or better yet, ask your dentist for some old tools.
13. Read the Ranger Handbook during your time waiting in line, waiting for a meeting...(you'll do a lot of waiting).
14. Put "bug-juice" on before you camo-up.
15. On your first break, go to a surplus store and invest in a small camo kit, a mosquito head net, and a small pocket knife. It would behoove you to show up at camp with these items.
16. Wash clothes when pulling guard duty.
17. On your days off, get off Post. Washington is a beautiful state.
18. A small pen light will be useful in the evening.
19. A walkman with tapes
20. Bring extra shoelaces.
21. Get to know the names of the people in your platoon, especially your squad members, early.
22. Learn to tolerate anything. The challenge to your endurance will prove most rewarding.
23. When faced with a seemingly "impossible" mission, stop, take a minute, smile, then do it.
24. Support every member of you platoon. Don't try to out-do each other unless you enjoy misery.
25. Pack a good sense of humor.
26. Don't curse the briars on adventure challenge. Look closely and you might find some blackberries and delicious raspberries.
27. Keep it all in perspective. When you make mistakes (and you will) just smile, say a prayer and drive on. The world won't end because you put your poncho in your left cargo pocket instead of your right. Or was that supposed to go in your allis pack?

Alpha Company

Due to a mishap in procurement, we regret that your Commander's article has not been included in this issue. Our apologies.

CONGRATULATIONS AIRBORNE/AIR ASSAULT NOMINEES

HABIC
WITTY
DUXBURY
JONES
ROSS
FRANCIS
VOGT
BELLON
COTY
MAC DONALD
GOPON
CONNER
HOLLIDAY
DEVINE
FORTIN
BRODIE
GIOMETTI
JACKSON
TORRES

RIBPIN RELIYED

It was 5:30 in the morning, Saturday, and I and 30 other cadets were rolling down the road in a deuce-and-a-half. It was pitch black, almost everyone around me was a stranger, and I had almost no idea of what "TAC OPS" or "TAX LANES" would be like or how I would do. Such was the beginning of the first training day at RIBPIN, a three day field training exercise for all MS III's attending Rose-Holman, IUPUI, Ball State, Purdue, Indiana, and Notre Dame, hence, the acronym.

The idea of the weekend is to give cadets from different schools the chance to work together on some of the exercises that they will do at Advanced Camp. The weekend's events were divided into tactical operations (TAC OPS), tactical applications exercises (TAX lanes), day and night land navigation, and orienteering.

Friday was pretty mellow, since all we had to do was set up our tents and get ready for the hard training Saturday. Wake-up was at 0430, with formation of all schools at 0530. We were put into platoons with all different people, and they trucked us off to our respective training areas.

Some platoons, like mine, got TAC OPS first. There we were told that our platoon would be on a movement-to-contact mission. Mike Schellinger was designated platoon leader, and a platoon sergeants and squad leaders were also chosen. Mike's job was the most demanding, for he had to receive the mission

from the TAC officer and complete it as best he could. This entailed giving a good operations order, rehearsing with the platoon, and acting properly once enemy contact was made. Mike's Irish Ranger training was evident, for he did all these well. Four kilometers into the mission, we ran into machine gun fire. Acting immediately, Mike gave the command for first squad to lay down suppressive fire while second squad bounded up the hill to the left of first squad. The first 60-gunner was killed after he got off a couple rounds, but the assistant gunner rallied from behind to take control of the weapon and strafe the opposing force's nest, knocking them out. Accountability was taken, the wounded were aided, and then we drove on. (Pretty exciting stuff.)

Actually that was the end of the mission, so we were called back to talk about the exercise with Smokin' Joe, Captain Cave, and Colonel Hemphill, our TAC officers. They gave us a good evaluation. (It should be noted that Ken Duxbury and Mike Cotter were also platoon leaders who performed well.) We then moved to TAX lanes.

TAX lanes was similar to TAC OPS, except that each lane was only an hour long, and we were in squad sized elements. There were ten TAX lanes, so each member of the squad got to be the squad leader. Basically, the squad leader had to receive the mission, give the operations order to the squad, and then move out. Many times the squad would get ambushed or fired upon by a sniper, so the squad leader had to react quickly and

correctly. If a mistake was made, and of course there were many, the lane guide would talk it over with you so you don't make the same mistake at Advanced Camp.

The last part of the day (actually night) was reserved for NIGHT LAND NAV. (The capital letters are not a mistake.) One might be inclined to think that night land would be fun, since there is no leadership position to take and because there is no time limit. Well, that part of it was certainly true, but lurking out in the darkness were a billion jillion thorns that the NIGHT LAND NAV officers had made an integral part of the course. We crossed this 150 meter briar patch not once but four times. Thus, NIGHT LAND NAV did not test your night land navigational skills so much as your pain threshold.

Day land nav on Sunday was much better, but still very long. One would have had to run to finish the course on time. It was imperative that you keep a straight azimuth, for the pace count can easily be off after a thousand meters. Back azimuths were very handy when nothing in front of you could serve as a marker.

Orienteering finished off the day. We were expected to use a contour map of the area to find three points which we plotted on our maps, given the grid coordinates. The accuracy of the coordinates was only a hundred meters, so that made them difficult to find sometimes

Continued page 9

RIBPIN

CONTINUED...

(especially that damn point on the other side of that ridge that I never found). Streams were particularly helpful, as long as you were sure it was the right stream. All in all, it was a good course, about as tough as our own course in the Mishawaka mountains.

Thus ended the RIBPIN adventure. Wow. It was a tough two days of training, but we juniors survived and did pretty well compared to the other schools. Most importantly, we made some good friends from the other schools and learned how to work together to complete the mission. Now if only the Air Force could do a napalm drop on that briar patch...

C/SSG Ben Francis

“Leadership in a democratic Army means firmness, not harshness; Understanding, not weakness; Justice, not license; Humaneness, not intolerance; Generosity, not selfishness; Pride, not egotism.”

—General of the Army Omar N. Bradley

Smokin' Joe's Fire Doused

at Dining Out

On 27 April, the Fightin' Irish Battalion held its annual Dining Out. COL Vincent Tedesco, an old friend of LTC Hemphill's, spoke on the subject of "Life in the Army," after we all had finished our chicken kiev and prime rib feasts. He made some good points and some humorous observations that kept us interested and made us take a good look at the Army without ROTC. He encouraged those present to search for a tape of the old John Wayne movie "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon," and to watch the scene where Wayne rides off into the sunset as a true test of interest in a career as a soldier.

He presented LTC Hemphill with a picture of Knute Rockne "talking to his troops," and the Fightin' Irish Battalion presented him with a plaque in appreciation of his enthusiasm and his attendance at the Dining Out. LTC Hemphill then conducted a fashion show in which the cadre showed off their accoutrements for our visual entertainment.

After the formal part of the celebration was over, both cadets and officers found their way to the dance floor and some to the swimming pool. Notable performances on the floor were

included the Airborne Hustle, the traditional Hawaii-Five-0 rowing chain, Mike Bald Mike Fagnant and Paul Nobbe as Run DMC, the Yacka Rap, and a fine display by CPT Warrick and his date cutting the rug. Many of the cadets decided to enjoy some aquatic antics in the indoor swimming pool, notable C/CPT Pat Doyle and C/2LT Eric Prtichard in class A uniforms. Smokin' Joe Schweningen's fire was doused as approximately eight cadets escorted him to the pool and gently placed him in the water, thus rounding out the evening.

Many of the cadets continued the evening's fun with a trip to C/MAJ Pete Najera and C/CPT Frank Pimentel's house for a brief meeting highlighted by the melodious sound of our very own singing PMS.

A special thanks to C/MAJ Eric Miller and the rest of the committee who put this event together, and also to the emcee of the evening, our very own C/LTC Kerry McCarthy. C/MAJ Eric Miller would like to thank C/1SG Mike Kotter for his services as DJ and CPT Cave for his assistance in organization of this event.

C/PFC Michelle A. Mason

