



THE BLUE JAY BATTALION BULLETIN

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PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

LTC Ken Romaine, MS IV Instructor



LTC Romaine awards 2LT Starnes for her hard work

What an incredible summer for the Blue Jay Battalion! Our Cadets have accomplished much and continue to expand upon the great legacy of the Johns Hopkins ROTC program. The commissioning of 2LTs Hartline and Ukoha in July completed the summer ceremonies for our largest Hopkins ROTC class in 5 years! This year we commissioned 15 new Officers into the Army. This is more than twice the number who commissioned just three years ago. The fact that the program continues to grow is a testament to the quality of the Cadets we have and the leadership training and development they experience while participating in the program.

In addition to the commissioning – and departure – of our largest class since 2002, many of our returning Cadets performed superbly during summer training. Our rising senior class once again set a high standard as they exceeded the Cadet Command average scores in a number of leadership categories. Cadet Sheffield, this semester’s Battalion Commander, earned the coveted RECONDO badge and 4 of our 11 returning seniors (36%) earned an “Excellent” rating in leadership during Warrior Forge – well above the Cadet Command average of 24%. Other cadets from all three classes attended some of the toughest schools the Army has to offer – and all of them passed with ease. We still have two cadets at Airborne school (Robbins and



LTC Romaine talks with a soldier at the Leadership Training Course in Ft. Knox, KY

and Ashby) and I’m certain they will maintain the standard of excellence set by those who went before them.

As we prepare for the new semester, especially the beginning of a new academic year, I welcome the inevitable changes coming for the Blue Jay Battalion... new leadership, new Cadets, and a fresh start to a new academic year. I encourage you all to take this opportunity to reflect on your accomplishments over the past year and to set new challenges for yourself for the months ahead. Each of you should now see yourselves in a new light – as an emerging leader with broader experiences and a unique opportunity to continue to hone your leadership skills. Continue to seek opportunities to practice values-based leadership and challenge those put under your care to do the same. I look forward to helping you in that regard.

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QUOTE:

“The lessons I learned through ROTC have immediately helped me focus on studying and work during college. Now they make me a well balanced and hard working Officer.”

-2LT Katie Parke

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Finally, I welcome the newest Cadets to our program and hope that you will find that our ROTC family is the perfect complement to your college experience. You will be challenged in ways that you might not expect – but will be stronger for the experience. All of us in the Blue Jay Battalion, cadre and cadet alike, stand ready to help you develop the leader in you. Welcome to the team.

“I’ll Lead”

-LTC Romaine

SENIOR MILITARY INSTRUCTOR

MSG Butera, MS I Instructor

Greetings Blue Jay Battalion and welcome back! I hope that all of you enjoyed your well deserved summer break. Let me start off by saying that it is an honor to serve in one of the very best ROTC Battalion’s in Cadet Command and without a doubt the very best Cadets. From the time I arrived in June of 2006 I have been impressed with the Cadets and the potential they exhibit to be future leaders. Having the opportunity to serve here over the course of an entire year I am convinced that only the highest caliber of students are enrolled from our three campuses that include the University of Maryland in Baltimore County, Villa Julie and The Johns Hopkins University. The accuracy of my initial observations were confirmed this summer by the 100% pass rate our Cadets achieved at LDAC, LTC, Air Assault, Airborne School,

AMEDD, and CTLT. In addition to LDAC and LTC we had numerous MSIs and IIs attend AAS and Airborne school achieving a 100% graduation rate.



MSG Butera congratulates 2LT Ukoha shortly after her commissioning.

LDAC and LTC we had numerous MSIs and IIs attend AAS and Airborne school achieving a 100% graduation rate.

I am extremely proud of our MS IIIs and end of camp commissionees for their successes at LDAC. This summer I served as the Holding Company 1SG at LDAC and was directly involved in the board proceedings and out processing of the Cadets that were dismissed and or sent home early. Fortunately, I didn’t have to out process any of the Blue Jays as all of them passed and graduated. The MS IIIs claimed many victories at LDAC to include one Recondo, High Physical Fitness Scores and many dimensional “Es”. Well done new MS IV’s.

I look forward to the start of a new school year and am excited to receive our newest MS I Cadet members. I am sure you will live up to the high standards set by last year’s freshman class. Our MS IIs

are a model class for all of Cadet Command and we are all looking forward to your continued success again this year. I know that you will continue to lead the way this year on our Color Guard and Drill Team. The MS III class will lead the way in our leadership lab for the first semester as well as prepare for another successful year at LDAC at the completion of the school year.

With the upcoming MS IVs filling staff positions and assuming the command leadership roles I believe that 2007-2008 will be a magnificent year filled with extraordinary accomplishments and leadership excellence.

In closing I want to challenge each of you to set goals, live the Army Values and focus on being the very best student, citizen and Cadet you can be. Again, I am honored to be a part of this great and historic organization and I look forward to serving with the best Cadets and future leaders in the Army.

“I’ll Lead”

-MSG Butera



MSG Butera and SFC Ballesteros give 2LT's Ukoha and Hartline their 1st salutes

CADET BATTALION COMMANDER

C/LTC Sheffield

Welcome back to all you returning Blue Jays and a special welcome to all of our new cadets! Speaking not only for myself but also on behalf of the rest of the MSIV staff I would like to ensure you that the coming year promises to be nothing less than extraordinary! And because three consecutive exclamatory sentences is just a little over the top for opening remarks I'll continue by saying that I hope, in confidence, you have all come prepared for some solid training. With the new school year comes new opportunities to excel here at JHU so now is the time to start preparing yourself for potential summer training slots by taking advantage of these opportunities and showing us what you've got.

This past summer I had the privilege of attending LDAC (mandatory MSIII training) followed directly by Air Assault School (non mandatory highly sought after). LDAC, the Leadership Development and Assessment Course, also lovingly referred to as Warrior Forge, served both as a test and a teacher of cadet's core leadership abilities. Really it is run much in the same way we do things here only on a much larger scale and for 33 days straight. Cadets rotate through leadership positions varying from squad leader all the way up to company commander while they participate in training such as Basic Rifle Marksmanship, Combat Water Survival and Squad Tactical Lanes. Furthermore, in addition to all the planned training I found it to be a great opportunity to interact with and

learn from cadets and cadre alike who were from schools all across the country (and other countries for that matter) and I'm sure that all of us returning from LDAC are better prepared for our MSIV year as a result. All the same, for those who are familiar with the term "Cadet Land," I must say that LDAC is the epitome of it.



Cadet Sheffield demonstrates the proper high crawl technique.

Therefore, it was rather nice to go directly to Air Assault School where cadets are tossed in with Army soldiers ranging from Privates to Majors and put through a 10 day gauntlet in hopes of earning the Air Assault Badge. I think the fact that our particular class boasted an attrition rate of approximately 50% speaks to the difficulty of the course. Air Assault teaches the fundamental skills involved in air combat operations including setup of pickup and landing zones, slingload operations (strapping big or heavy items to the bottom of helicopters) and of course the most exciting aspects: fast roping (you know, *Blackhawk Down*) and rappelling from helicopters. In addition to these core skills, however, the Air Assault Sergeants are kind enough to ensure that you graduate with an

extremely thorough empirical knowledge of pushups, flutter-kicks, mountain climbers and other assorted callisthenic tortures, thus making what may seem like an innocent school a rather grueling 10 days of training. In the end though, I had a blast with the rappelling and fast roping and came out with a true sense of accomplishment and a pretty little set of wings to pin on my uniform.

Therefore, if you wish to be a double stacked (Airborne and Air Assault School graduate) super stud like our very own cadets Johnson and Henderson (if you don't know them yet, you surely will soon) then start things off right! Get involved and lead from the front. I'm looking forward to a great semester.

-C/LTC Sheffield

SUMMER UPDATE

CDT Hernandez completed LDAC and interned in Hawaii for follow on training with a medical BN.

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CDT Hernandez strikes a pose while she waits in line for chow at LDAC.

CDT's Miller and Royer were the first cadets from the Blue Jay BN to complete LDAC this summer.

CDT Hartline completed LDAC and commissioned with CDT Ukoha into the Army on 2 Aug. at the ROTC Building.

CDT's Kwon and McDonald completed Airborne School at Ft. Benning in June.

CDT's Ashby, Varela and Voglezon completed LTC in July.

CDT Lee completed LDAC and interned with the 187th Medical BN at Ft. Sam Houston.

CDT Johnson completed LDAC. He received a CTLT at Ft. Sill.

CDT Cortez completed LDAC in July. For the remainder of the summer he worked at the athletic center.

CDT's McClellan and Kealy completed LDAC. They returned to the Baltimore area after spending time with family in Washington.



CDT Johnson performing MEDEVAC operations at LDAC

CDT's Henderson and Sheffield completed LDAC then attended Air Assault School at Ft. Campbell, KY.

CDT Kavanaugh graduated Air Assault School with CDT's Henderson and Sheffield.

CDT's Ashby and Robbins are currently at Airborne school.

ALUMNI UPDATE



2LT Nordahl with his parents shortly after Ranger School Graduation.

All members of the commissioning class of 2006 have graduated Basic Officer Leadership Courses (BOLC) II and III and are now serving with their units. Special congratulations to 2LT's Nordahl, Gridelli and Gerner who recently graduated from Ranger School.



2LT Gridelli (Left) and 2LT Gerner (Right) after Ranger School Graduation

NCOP ITINERARY

27AUG07 – Monday

- 0800 – 1200: Equipment issue and early move-in for JHU students
- 1200 – 1300: BBQ
- 1330 – 1500: Briefings & Classes
- 1500 – 1600: New Cadet & Contracting Ceremonies
- 1900: Optional Dinner

28AUG07 – Tuesday

- 0630 – 0800: First Formation & Physical Training
- 0800 – 1000: Breakfast and Personal Hygiene
- 1000 – 1530: EST2000
- 1600 – 1800: CWST
- 1800: Dinner

29AUG07 – Wednesday

- 0645 – 0800: First Formation & Breakfast
- 0800 – 1200: Rappelling & MRE Lunch
- 1200 – 1730: Leadership Reaction Course

30AUG07 – Thursday

- 0645 – 0800: First Formation & Breakfast
- 0800 – 1130: Obstacle Course
- 1130 – 1400: Ordnance Museum Tour
- 1400 – 1630: BBQ

SPECIAL THANKS TO ...

COL (R) Kaufmann and fellow retired officers for donating their time and resources in repairing the M-1903-A3 Springfield Drill Team Rifles. It will greatly assist the Pershing Rifles Drill Team with this year's performances.