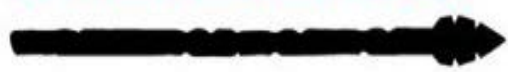


AZTECS



ARMY ROTC



San Diego State University Army ROTC March 2021 Newsletter

Jungle Warfare

How to become a Jungle Warrior

What Does Your Summer Look Like?

Every summer, Cadets across the summer get ready for various summer training opportunities offered to them by Cadet Command. Across the country, Army school houses prepare to receive the large influx of ROTC and West Point Cadets into their classes, some schools are more used to large numbers of Cadets than others.

Air Assault and Airborne are the most common schools Cadets are sent to. Simply due to the usefulness and infrastructure given to these schools, it is just logistically easier to send Cadets to these schools because they are able to support the influx of students every summer. There are 7 Air Assault schools across the Army, and the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning is very large and conducts many classes every year.

What is Jungle warfare school?

Other schools, like Sapper, Jungle, Mountain, and Scuba are niche schools, designed to teach a very specific skill set and to a specific group of students. Due to these reasons, these schools accept a very select number of Cadets every fiscal year, if at all. If a Cadet is able to secure a slot at one of those above mentioned schools, that in itself is quite an achievement.

Jungle Warfare School or the Jungle Operations Training Course (JOTC) is held at the Lighting Academy at the 25th Infantry Division in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Currently, only 8 courses are taught a year, with around 75 students per class.

...and what do you get?

Jungle Warfare School is meant to teach its students how to navigate, fight, and operate in a jungle environment. Hawaii was chosen as the location for the school due to the topography, humid weather, and vegetation. One of the newest Jungle

Warfare courses, the American school was founded in 2013. The initial founding cadre of the JOTC attended some of the most rigorous Jungle warfare courses in the world, like in India, Brazil, Japan, and French Guiana.

Designed to both teach and evaluate leadership potential, JOTC is three weeks long and consists of various topics, culminating in a field training exercise. In this course, all soldiers the rank of E-5 or above are also evaluated in their leadership ability and ability to remain alert and proficient in austere environments. Subjects taught in the course include: water navigation, jungle survival, field medicine, guerilla tactics, and rope bridges and harnesses.

After graduation, students are given the Jungle tab. The tab however is only authorized for wear when a soldier is assigned to a USPACOM unit. There are no gender or MOS restrictions for this school.



A JOTC instructor teaches students to use of a rope bridge.

Congratulations to the following Cadets on their selection to attend specialty training this summer! Good luck!

CDT Hallmark: Airborne
CDT Van Houten: Air Assault
CDT Hair: Air Assault
CDT Keefe: Air Assault



CDT Hair, one of our high speed Cadets rocking the 240!

Women in the Army!

Our Army would not be the same without our female warriors!

When were women allowed to join the Army?

Women first became involved in the United States Army during the Revolutionary War (1775-1783). They helped the troops by working in garrison positions such as nurses, seamstresses, laundresses, and cooks. However, few women worked in the field in combat heavy positions. It was not until the Civil War (1861-1865) that women began enlisting and working on the battlefield. Despite women not being able to join the Army, more than 400 women pretended to be men to be able to fight in the Civil War.

What led to the creation of the Nurse Corps?

The Army Nurse Corps of the Medical Department was established in 1901 due to the typhoid fever epidemic during the Spanish American War (1898-1901). This marked the first Reserve Corps women could join. The amount of women who served in the Military spiked during World War I (1917-1918) with over 35,000 women serving positions in the Army, Navy, and Marines.

It was not until World War II (1939-1945) that Women were legally able to join the Army. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Women's Armed Service Integration Act

allowing women into the Military. The feminist movement from 1970 to 1978 caused more women to join the military. During this time women began entering the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), Army rules and regulations were modified to increase equality for men and women, and the first women officers were commissioned. Since 2016, women have been able to join any position in the military and Department of Defense missions.

What about women today?

More recently, numerous women have gone through some of the Army's most rigorous schools, like Ranger and Sapper courses. A female has even gone on to earn her Green Beret and her long tab, being the first woman in Army History to join an ODA as an operator. Some of our own Cadets are paving paths of their own. CDT Ernst is branching active duty infantry, and CDTs Van Houten and Hair are attending the Air Assault school this summer.



Aztec Battalion ladies practice the kneeling position during Pre-marksmanship Instruction.



CDT Sibaja (MSIV) mentors CDT Van Houten (MSII) during Pre-marksmanship Instruction.

Alumni Spotlight

1LT Clarisse Aubel

As the first female Aztec program commissionee to graduate the grueling US Army Sapper School, First Lieutenant Clarisse Aubel continues to make us proud while setting the example for fellow Officers and Soldiers to follow. A 2018 graduate from University of California San Diego (UCSD), First Lieutenant Aubel is currently stationed in Texas, and recently earned her cavalry Stetson and spurs, reserved for those within the Third Armored Cavalry Regiment "Brave Rifles" who "stand out as the epitome of excellence." She is just one example of our high achieving and successful Aztec Battalion Alumni.

What is your favorite part about going to school in San Diego?

My favorite part of going to school in San Diego was the food and the weather. The food culture in the area is awesome! Some of the best you'll ever eat. And the weather of course. You can't beat the beach being right at your back door!

What is your favorite Army memory?

I'm definitely still creating more memories, but so far my favorite would have to be successfully completing and graduating Sapper School!

[Background: Sapper school or the Sapper Leader's Course takes place at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. At 28 days long, it is a leadership development course for combat engineers that teaches critical leadership and technical skills in an austere environment. Sapper qualified Soldiers return to combined arms units and implement their technical skills and leadership ability to better the force. Those who complete the course are awarded the Sapper tab and the Additional Skill Identifier of S4.]

Do you have a favorite spot in San Diego?

That's tough to boil down. Most of them would have to be food spots haha. Top five would probably have to be the following:

1. Tacos el Gordo (an authentic Mexican taco shop found all over California and Nevada and a favorite amongst many current Cadets)
2. Phil's BBQ (another local favorite, Phil's is famous for authentic southern barbecue and is found in four different locations in the San Diego area)
3. BetterBuzz Coffee (small batch coffee roasters with locations around San Diego County. Some of the best coffee in town)
4. Mission Beach
5. The Coronado Bridge



First Lieutenant Clarrise Aubel proudly displays her Sapper tab, Stetson and spurs, earned after completing a Spur Ride at Fort Hood, Texas.

What is your branch and what made you choose your branch?

Engineer. I chose Engineer mostly because I studied Structural Engineering at UC San Diego. However, I really liked how the Engineer branch allowed you to do both the technical and tactical. Best of both worlds!

What is the best piece of advice you have gotten so far in your career?

So far, I have three:

1. "Don't put your career in someone else's hands."
2. "The most dangerous phrase is 'we've always done it this way'." - Admiral Grace Harper
3. "The Army will always be there, but your family and friends won't."

Want to Know what's coming up?

San Diego State Army ROTC

Register Today!

Our New Alumni Database is LIVE!

Register today by going to the link below:

https://armyrotc.sdsu.edu/alumni/stay_connected

Sign up to learn about what's going on in the program and volunteer to mentor the next generation of Aztec Leaders!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following Cadets for contracting in March. Thank you for committing to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and to lead America's sons and daughters upon commissioning

CDT Edmond
CDT Hashimoto
CDT Loaiza
CDT Lopez
CDT Zhou

Congratulations to the following Cadets on their selection to attend Cadet Troop Leadership Training (CTLT) this summer. These Cadets will shadow a Lieutenant in an Active Duty Army unit to learn what life as a Platoon Leader is really about!

CDT Adams: Vicenza, Italy
CDT Rascon: Fort Bragg, NC
CDT Watson: Fort Riley, KS
CDT Hernandez: Fort Campbell, KY



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Military and Community Resource Info Session: April 6th

Spring FTX: April 15th-18th

Awards Ceremony: April 22nd

Staff Ride (MSIVs): April 23rd

Commissioning ceremony: June 5th

PMS Corner

Aztecs,

As we approach the mid-point of our Spring Semester, it's incredible to look back at what we've accomplished over the past couple of months: a commissioning ceremony, several contracting ceremonies, an M4 range, multiple Army Combat Fitness Tests, and our first "fun" lab in nearly two years (rappelling at Stu Segal Studios!). Our MSIV Cadet leadership continues to forge ahead with planning training, despite seeing the light at the end of the tunnel that leads to their commissioning and attendance at their Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC) in the not so distant future. I applaud them for their sustained energy and enthusiasm to finish the year strong!

The MSIIIs (juniors) continue to hone their leadership skills through tactical training, as they prepare for Cadet Summer Training, where their skills will be put to the ultimate test during 38 grueling days at Fort Knox. To enhance this training, we will join forces with California State University – Fullerton in April for our first combined Field Training Exercise in several years. This will be extremely beneficial for Cadets at all levels, as they train with and lead Cadets who they have never worked with before, much like they will experience at CST.

Over the past few weeks we were fortunate to notify several Cadets of their selection to attend Airborne School, Air Assault School, Cadet Troop Leadership Training (including a slot in Italy!) and Project Global Officer (language training) this summer. These are all highly competitive opportunities offered to Cadets nationwide, so the selection of Aztec Battalion Cadets speaks volumes of their accomplishments, drive and continued efforts to live up to our motto, "Tip of the Spear!" I'm proud of each and every Cadet in the program and I look forward to recognizing you at our awards ceremony in April. Stay the course and let's finish the last couple of months stronger than ever!



-LTC Michelle Parlette