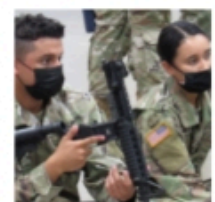
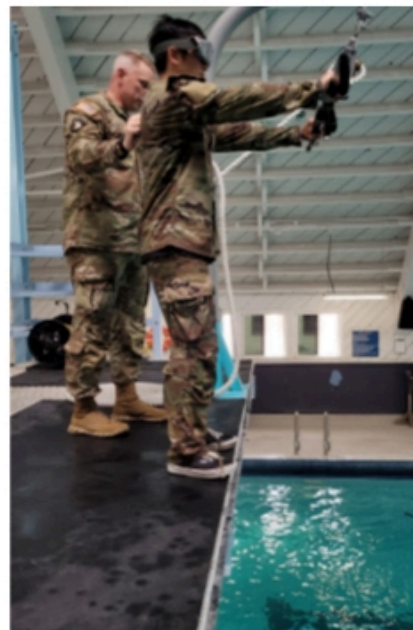


AZTEC ARMY ROTC OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



DATES TO REMEMBER

3-6NOV2021	BDE Commander Visit
5-7 NOV2021	Ranger Challenge Comp
11NOVE2021	Veteran's Day
19-21NOV2021	Fall FTX
24-28NOV2021	Thanksgiving Break
01DEC2021	Branch Reveal
02DEC2021	Award Ceremony
08DEC2021	Last Day of Classes
10-16DEC2021	Finals Week
15DEC2021	AUSA Holiday Party
17DEC2021	First Day of Winter Break



13 FOR 13

On October 9th, cadets from our very own Aztec Battalion organized a 13 mile ruck march at Coronado. This event was put on to honor the Marines, Soldiers, and Sailors who were killed at Kabul Airport on August 26th.

The bombings in Afghanistan that led to the deaths of these 13 US servicemen were some of the deadliest in the past decade of the War on Terror. These men and women gave their lives so that so many others could escape the terrors occurring in Afghanistan.

Cadets from all the ROTC programs in San Diego were invited to honor these fallen men and women alongside the cadets from our own program. Over 80 cadets showed up and completed the ruck march with up to 50lbs of gear on their backs.



COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING

At the beginning of this month Aztec cadets completed CWST or Combat Water Survival Training at Miramar. This is no longer a required training for cadets, but it is important that they become comfortable with being in the water while in full uniform.

For CWST, our cadets had to complete a variety of events in the water. This includes a 15 meter swim while also holding a rifle over their head and jumping off a high dive tower while blindfolded. These events served to teach our cadets what to do if they fell in the water while under load and helped to build confidence in their own abilities to escape such situations.





SMP

The SMP or Simultaneous Membership Program allows for cadets to be apart of both ROTC and the National Guard or Army Reserves. It is a great opportunity for cadets to gain experience and knowledge while getting paid to do so.

As a member of the SMP program, cadets participate in monthly trainings with their chosen Guard or Reserve Unit. At these trainings they get the chance to shadow a Lieutenant and get hands on experience of what they will do once they commission into the Army.

This is invaluable experience for many cadets who participate in the SMP program. Many of our own cadets here at the Aztec Battalion are a part of this and it has definitely shown in their performance and skillset.

WWII VET: TOM RICE

The Aztec Battalion Military History class had the fantastic opportunity to meet with Tom Rice this past month. Mr. Rice is a World War 2 Veteran who served with the 101st Airborne for the duration of the war.

During his visit, he spoke in length about his experiences throughout life and during World War 2. Mr. Rice detailed his jump into Normandy on D-Day and how he did it again for the 75th Anniversary at the age of 97. He is a true American hero and it was an honor for members of our Aztec Battalion to get to meet with him.



THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN HAPPENING

Congratulations to CDTs Lopez, Ha, Sanchez, and Castillo for contracting this past month. They have all earned this and will go on to do great things as officers in the Army.

The Aztec Battalion Color Guard helped welcome back 94 WWII and Korean War Veterans at the San Diego Airport. There were men and women from every branch who greatly served their country.

On October 7th and 14th, cadets got to do ISMT or Indoor Simulated Marksmen Training. They practiced on a variety of weapons systems used by the Army such as the M4 and M9.

At Miramar on October 21st, Aztec Battalion trained on both Tactical Combat Casualty Care and Individual Movement Techniques to improve on cadets individual skills.

On October 28th, cadets went out to train on team and squad movement techniques. They practiced the proper patrolling techniques and what to do when moving in these formations.

Cadets from Aztec Battalion conducted Color Guard and performed the coin toss at the Army Appreciation Game on October 30th.

