

# AZTEC BATTALION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

## Welcome back Aztec Battalion!

The school year is back and better than ever as the Aztec Battalion welcomes its new and returning students across greater San Diego. All five schools have now started their year: San Diego State University, University of San Diego, University of California San Diego, California State University San Marcos, and Point Loma Nazarene University. All of the students deserve a hand for all their hard-work and dedication thus far!

## What's Next?

### Upcoming Events for the Fall Semester

- 11/2**, Lab 11: Squad Attack
- 11/9**, Lab 12: Squad Ambush
- 11/11**, Veteran's Day Vigil
- 11/16**, Lab 13: Field Training Exercise (FTX) ROC Drill
- 11/17-19**, Fall FTX (MCAS Miramar)
- 11/20-25**, Thanksgiving Break
- 11/30**, Lab 15: MSIV Spring Planning Conference
- 12/16**, Wreaths Across America
- 12/21**, Winter Commissioning Ceremony

## Contents

Welcome .....	1
Meet the Commanders .....	2
Leadership Labs .....	3
9/11 Ceremony .....	4
Volunteering in the Community .....	5
Other Battalion Events .....	6
Contact Information and Spring Outlook .....	7



## Meet our Cadet Battalion Commander, Cadet Curry!

Receiving the position as the Aztec battalion commander threw me for a loop! I was a bit hesitant knowing I'd be responsible for leading the entire battalion however, I remembered the experience I gained as an NCO in Army Reserves. During those 8 years as an NCO I learned that leading Soldiers in the right direction takes both experience and commitment, which are two of my strongest attributes. Thinking back to when I first joined the Army, I was nervous to be away from home, to be among new people, and to live in a new environment. I want to change that here! The vision I see for the Aztec battalion is to make it everyone's second home. I want cadets to leave with an experience. If they decide to go in a different direction that is ok, as long as they remember we are always family. As the years pass and they earn their rank as second lieutenant, I want cadets to remember the laughs we shared, the friendships we encountered, and the resilience they've obtained.

As our motto goes: **Tip of the Spear!**



**c/Alpha Company  
Commander,  
Cadet Tobia**



**c/Bravo Company  
Commander,  
Cadet Senn**



**c/Charlie Company  
Commander,  
Cadet Zhang**





# Leadership Labs

## Lab 1: Admin (company level)

## Lab 2: Welcome to ROTC!

The first time coming together as the battalion was lab 2 where new and returning cadets learned about what ROTC has to offer and practiced drill and ceremony—a practice that will follow them throughout their careers.

## Lab 3: Fieldcraft, PMI and TCCC

This week cadets practiced fieldcraft (including rucksack assembly, field hygiene, and face-paint application), preliminary marksmanship instruction (getting hands-on the M4 weapon), and tactical combat casualty care (combat first aid training).

## Lab 4: Obstacle Course

Self-confidence helps to build trust in oneself and reduces fear when faced with new or difficult challenges. Cadets completed the confidence course in order to face their fears and learn how to overcome obstacles that may be in the way.

## Lab 5: Individual, Team, and Squad Movement Techniques

Learning how to move in a formation, and find cover and concealment is one of the most basic, yet also most important foundational skills for Army Soldiers. Cadets were able to practice moving in these groups to best protect themselves and take down the enemy!

## Lab 6: Day Land Navigation

Cadets set out across Camp Elliott with only a compass, map, and protractor. Using knowledge of land navigation, cadets were able to plot, locate, and find coordinates on a map to correctly associate these with the terrain.





# 9/11 Ceremony

Aztec Cadets had the honor and privilege of leading the annual San Diego State University remembrance ceremony of September 11th, 2001. In addition to Army cadets, Air Force, Marine, and Navy cadets were also present, along with local Police and Fire. Speakers included an address by SDSU president Adela de la Torre, keynote speaker military historian and Army veteran Dr. Gregory Daddis, and narration by our very own Cadet Victoria Gutierrez.





## Charlie Co., volunteering superstars!

Cadets at California State University San Marcos (CSUSM), the Aztec Battalion's Charlie company, have been volunteering in order to both better their community and also foster "leadership excellence."

In the month of September alone, Charlie Company has participated in campus recruiting events, volunteered at the Veterans Center, completed a 9/11 memorial stair climb in conjunction with the Wounded Warrior Program, and volunteered at events around the community.



## Other Events from Aztec Battalion

Saturday, August \_\_ was the Army Appreciation football game at SDSU. Cadets both came in attendance of the crowd and color guard, and assisted with the coin flip at the beginning of the game. The football team beat Ohio University 20-13.

Alpha and Bravo companies completed their first ruck march at Lake Murray for PT on Monday, September 25th. This is only step one in the preparation for cadets participating in FTX this November and Advanced Camp after their MSIII year.

On September 22nd the first Commander's Cup of the year was played in frisbee against other San Diego ROTC programs. While the Army did not take home a win this time, cadets had a great time bonding with each other and against the other programs.



## Follow us on social media

INSTAGRAM: @sdarmyrotc  
FACEBOOK: @SDArmyROTC  
TWITTER: @SDSU\_ROO

## Contact us at:

(619) 249-5609  
armyrotc@sdsu.edu

## Spread the word!

Know anyone who may be interested in receiving this newsletter? Alumni, family, or friends? Send their email to [armyrotc@sdsu.edu](mailto:armyrotc@sdsu.edu) to subscribe.



## Spring Outlook

### The Range at MCAS Miramar

This spring the Aztec Battalion MSIIIs and MSIVs will be improving their Basic Rifle Marksmanship before traveling to Advanced Camp and commissioning this summer. For many, this will be their first opportunity to learn and use the weapons of the US Army.

### Spring FTX

Anticipate another epic FTX coming up this April! Cadets will be focusing on platoon-sized tactics and get the chance to operate in platoon leadership positions. For MSIs and MSIIIs they will be gain a valuable introduction to the Army, and for MSIIIs this will be their final time to test out their skills before heading off to FT. Knox for Advanced Camp, also know as Cadet Summer Training.

### Spring Commissioning Ceremony

Early this June the class of 2024 graduates and commissions as Officers in to the US Army. Taking place on the USS Midway, this is an incredibly special event. These cadets have worked hard over the past four years to get to where they are today. Please plan to join us as we congratulate and support these newly minted Officers. Hooah!