

# AZTEC ARMY ROTC

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



### Important Dates to Remember

13SEP2021	9/11 Ceremony at SDSU
11OCT2021	Indegenious Peoples Day
16OCT2021	Massing of the Colors
30OCT2021	Joint March On (SDSU Stadium)
3-6NOV2021	BDE Commander Visit
5-7NOV2021	Ranger Challenge Competition
11NOV2021	Veterans Day (No Class / Lab)
19-21NOV2021	Aztec Bn Fall FTX (Camp Elliot)
24-28NOV2021	Thanksgiving Break
02DEC2021	Last Lab (Awards Ceremony)
08DEC2021	Last day of ROTC classes
10-16DEC2021	Finals Week (No classes)
15DEC2021	AUSA Holiday Party
17DEC-09JAN2022	Winter Break

### WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back Aztec Battalion! We're excited to kick off this new semester, in person!



# THINGS HAVE BEEN HAPPENING!

Alongside Advanced Camp, CDT Hallmark graduated from Army Airborne School. CDT Van Houten and CDT Keefe graduated from Army Air Assault School.

Cadet Andrews was rewarded the USAA Warrior Spirit Award due to his outstanding performance at Advanced Camp 2021!

4 RECONDO Cadets and 2 Cadre were recognized by General Funk on 25AUGUST2021 for their accomplishments and achievements at Advanced Camp 2021 at Fort Knox, KY. (Left to Right) SFC Carter, Mr. Escamilla, CDT Fountas, CDT OBrien, CDT Rodriguez, CDT Watson

The Fall semester started with an early morning PT session on 30AUGUST2021, where Cadets were evaluated on their current physical fitness.

Aztec Battalion's Color Guard presented the Colors at the San Diego Padres baseball game on 05SEPTEMBER2021.

Ranger Challenge tryouts were conducted early in the mornings of 08-09SEPTEMBER2021 at Fiesta Island for a 6mi ruck / Land Nav Test, and at SDSU for a modified ACFT.

Cadets got to run the Obstacle Course at MCAS Miramar on 09SEPTEMBER2021 in order to build confidence and esprit de corps.

Cadets attended and participated in a 20th Anniversary ceremony for 9/11 at San Diego State University honoring those who lost their lives.

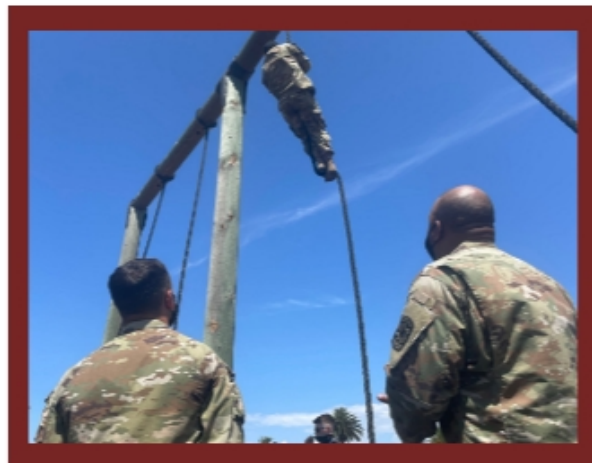


# INSPIRING ESPRIT DE CORPS

On 09 September 2021 our Cadets tested their limits and built confidence within themselves by tackling the obstacle course at MCAS Miramar in San Diego!

There were multiple events that Cadets got to tackle such as climbing ropes, vaulting over a wall, vaulting over logs and more. Each event tested the Cadets both physically and mentally and as they challenged and encouraged one another to strive further.

At the end of the day, a few Cadets participated in a relay race across the entirety of the obstacle course with a sprint to the finish at the end. During the first iteration a Cadet was positioned at the beginning of an obstacle that they were most confident in while a battle buddy raced the obstacle before them, to then tag them in order to complete their obstacle. After the first race, Cadets took on the challenge and raced 1 on 1 across the entire obstacle course.



## 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

On Monday 13 September 2021 Cadets from across all the branches came together at San Diego State University for a 9/11 Ceremony. Not only was this ceremony important in itself, it also marked the 20th anniversary of the tragic event.

During the ceremony, Cadets from all the branches stood in formation shoulder to shoulder with first responders as Army ROTC Cadre, as well as other officials gave speeches, sang the national anthem, gave personal accounts, and lowered the flag to half mast in order to honor the victims.

Afterwards, Cadets from Army ROTC gathered in front of a San Diego Fire Department, Fire Truck to take a photo before joining everyone in a mass group photo in front of Hepner Hall.



# ALUMNI CORNER

## 2LT VENTURINA & 2LT SCHNEIDER

Former Aztec Battalion Alumni, 2LT Venturina (Left) and 2LT Schneider (Right) both endured and graduated from US Army Ranger School.

US Army Ranger School is a premier leadership school that lasts 62 days, where soldiers are pushed to their limits in order to develop them into an elite fighting force that specializes in destroying and closing the distance between themselves and the enemy. Ranger School consists of 3 phases that must be completed in order to earn the Ranger Tab, Benning Phase, Mountain Phase, and Florida Phase.

2LT Venturina was asked about his experience, how his training in ROTC helped him, and any tips he has for those on the path to Ranger School:

"Ranger School was perhaps my most challenging and rewarding experience, although I believe my training in ROTC over the years helped prepare me for it. The many FTXs I attended as a cadet made me comfortable during the 26 days spent in the graded FTXs at Ranger School, making it less stressful despite the sleep and food deprivation. The opportunity to practice battle drills and leading others during leadership laboratory definitely gives an advantage that many other Ranger students are not afforded. As for tips, the best advice I could give is to ask questions if you are not completely confident in something. Secondly, be a team player. Nobody earns the Ranger Tab on his or her own, Third, when in charge, be in charge and show confidence and assertiveness to ensure that your subordinates trust your decision making ability. Lastly, I'll finish with "train as if it were real", so that it becomes natural instinct"



## 2LT DEL ROSARIO

2LT del Rosario is an Aztec Alumni who graduated in 2020 from UCSD as a logistics officer. Since the point of graduation 2LT del Rosario graduated from Quartermaster BOLC where themselves and a small group of her class got to meet the Chief of Staff of the Army. 2LT del Rosario mentioned that during the visit they got to share their thoughts of the Project Athena program with him.

Currently, 2LT del Rosario is stationed at Fort Riley and is assigned as a Platoon Leader in a Quartermaster Company, which consists primarily of 92Gs (Army Culinary Specialists) In May, a team from her platoon was able to compete in the Phillip A. Connelly Competition for 3 Corps level, where they won! Following, they then competed for the FORSCOM level, where 2LT del Rosario was there with them as their Food Service Officer.

