



PATRIOT PRIDE

February 2009



Professor of Military Science

"I do solemnly swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic..."
This is perhaps the most important line of the oath that we swear in service to our Nation and it is the line that is shared between enlisted Soldiers and Officers when we join the U.S. Army. At times, amidst the daily clutter of classes, homework, leadership lab training, and physical training, we lose sight of the reason that we're all really here. Service to this great Nation isn't about scholarship benefits, stipends, and book fees. It isn't about just getting by whether it's our grades or our performance in military training. We're in the business of preparing to lead America's sons and daughters into and out of harms way as we defend our way of life against an anti-democratic extremist threat.

It is with these weighty thoughts in mind that we jump into the Spring semester with a renewed focus on excellence and casting aside the distractions that keep the Patriot Battalion from developing the best leaders for our Soldiers. We have revamped our curriculum in the Military Science classes and we have realigned "Cadet training" with Army training so that we truly "Train to Fight" as our motto counsels us to do. Our physical training this semester is a no-holds barred approach to total fitness that pushes our Cadets beyond their mental limits and builds physical and mental toughness. Effort is only effort when it begins to hurt.

Along the way we continue to see the results of such a long standing leader development program. We had the honor of commissioning two of the Army's newest Second Lieutenants on inauguration day: 2LT Jason Matthews and 2LT George Jacome swore the oath of office and have joined their respective Army National Guard units as commissioned officers. This month, as well, Cadet Denis Campbell was selected as the Providence College "Student Leader of the Month", which is an overdue recognition of his leadership abilities and contributions. Well done, Denis!

I would also like to say a word of thanks to the Dominicans here at Providence College for hosting the Military Science Department faculty at the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas vespers and dinner in January. This was a great time of fellowship and helps us appreciate the close tie between the missions of our respective organizations.

Finally, to our Cadets, it's game time so come ready to play at the Varsity level. Let's get serious about preparing for a tough challenge and the greatest reward: leading American Soldiers.

Train to Fight. Fight to Win.

Matthew R. McKinley, "Patriot 6"
Lieutenant Colonel, Field Artillery
Professor of Military Science



Senior Military Instructor

To caveat off of what LTC McKinley is saying, we train as we fight in the US Army. If you are not preparing correctly now, you will not be prepared to fight and win in the future. Every aspect of the Army's mission is about winning. That is the mission. The only way that you can accomplish this is to train as hard as you can right here, right now. There is no place for second best. You are commissioning into the hardest job that any young person can have.

You will make decisions that directly affect the lives of Soldiers every day. If you are not thinking like that every time you put on your uniform you need to change your thought process. We will give you as many tools to help you as we can. You have to pick up these concepts and learn to apply them.

Every action has a consequence. When you meet the standard your Soldiers respect you, when you exceed the standard those same Soldiers are proud of you. Every time you do anything ask yourselves this simple question. "When I am done with this task will my Soldiers be proud of me as their leader?" If the answer is every no then you are not working to the correct goal.

When we train in the Patriot Battalion we are training to standard, on tasks that you asked to learn. Some training may not seem as fun and exciting as you wish, but it is all going to make you better leaders and Officers.

This is not your daddy's ROTC. You are going to become leaders in an Army in contact on a daily basis. The more that you sweat here in training, the less you and your Soldiers will bleed in combat. The two biggest problems you have to overcome in your Soldiers is confidence in themselves by challenging them every day to exceed and confidence in you by showing them how to exceed every standard, every time. Accept no less from yourself and them.

David Alan Bowman "Patriot 7"
MSG, USA
Senior Military Instructor

**Spring Semester: Major
Upcoming Events**

April 4: Military Ball

**April 24-26: Spring Field
Training Exercise**

May 15: Commissioning

***NEW CADET
CHAIN OF
COMMAND***

***BATTALION
COMMANDER:
RYAN ALLEN***

***EXECUTIVE
OFFICER:
SARA STOWELL***

***B. CTO: JEREMY
AUCOIN***

***B. ACTO: DENIS
CAMPBELL***

***B. ACTO: ERIC
CHARETTE***

C. CTO: David Devine

***C. ACTO: Adam
Swartzbaugh***

***C. ACTO: Joseph
Schneider***

S1: Derek George

S2: Lenora Benson

S3: Dan Marusak

S4: Joshua Corona

S5: Joseph Schneider

S6: James Gerardi

Cadet Spotlight: ACTO Adam Swartzbaugh

In Thailand I've started an organization called Kid Launch, the embryonic stages of which began while I was living in the region for just over a year working with disability rights through a subsidiary of USAID in Vietnam and managing tsunami relief projects in Thailand. Finally, last summer after Air Assault and LDAC I returned to Thailand so as to actually get things off the ground. The program was designed to focus on education support and sustainable development initiatives in Thailand by drawing on local social resource networks and empowering community leadership. In December I commenced the construction of the first school in northern Thailand, which is now complete and provides education to 60 rural ethnic minority children. Kid Launch has been sought out by other villages for support and we now have two more schools planned in the same area. We are also now providing teachers and pooling resources among other nonprofits to provide supplies where needed. The most challenging projects are basically microfinance initiatives providing startup capital to impoverished communities. In January I commenced a second program called New Hope that focuses explicitly on supporting and educating orphaned Burmese children. Current plans are for the construction of two schools and a vocational training center in Myanmar. Working with local networks, we have reestablished an agreement for neutral ground among warring minority groups and the Burmese military on which we can securely provide safe houses and education for these children. The vocational center will triple the income of some thirty impoverished families with enough surplus to sustain the schools after startup costs. Peripheral support is being given to 300 orphans currently sustained by a local monastery.

In the US I founded and incorporated a nonprofit organization called Human Defense Initiative. It provides a link between US-based support and grassroots projects overseas - the initial focus being on Kid Launch and New Hope, but with prospects for a disability right program in Vietnam and a multicultural bilingual education program in Israel. The organization is designed to be a grassroots human rights project networking organization - targeting local resource-deficient initiatives. I am currently conducting my graduate research on, and seeking out grants for, the creation of a new online social networking platform drawing on novel developments in information and communication technologies. It will complete the link between charity workers, donors and benefit recipients. Kid Launch will pilot the platform by the end of the year. Moreover, it is being designed to create a new framework for nonprofit accountability - local research conducted by myself and a small team of other students have proven current methods to be inaccurate.

These efforts have grown to incorporate members from Amnesty, UNICEF, Campaign on Burma and others. We are now developing a fundraising campaign. One part of this focuses on RI middle-schoolers by educating them on the situation in Southeast Asia - particularly the civil war and human rights issues in Myanmar - and empowering them to become involved, helping to raise funds.

Besides a little ballroom and Thai boxing on the side, that's pretty much all I'm doing outside of school. Oh I do play golf - if going down to the ocean and hammering balls three hundred feet into the sea after another pain-in-the-ass day counts.

-Adam Swartzbaugh

What Have Our Cadets Been Up To? Airborne School

This past summer I had the privilege of being sent to the United States Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. For three long weeks Cadets Totolo, Swanton, Horne and I battled the heat and long hours in order to earn the coveted jump wings.

The school is conducted in three phases: ground, tower and jump weeks. The first day of Ground Week was a long and challenging one. We had to conduct an APFT at 0430 in order to continue along the path to jump week. We were then given a presentation on what training we would conduct in the weeks ahead. For the rest of ground week, my fellow students and I practiced over and over how to properly wear the parachute and conduct the airborne shuffle. We also practiced how to properly exit the aircraft through a series of drills on how to stand up, hook up, and exit the aircraft. The most important piece of instruction was of course how to land properly. The class practiced parachute landing falls in pits throughout the training site.

Tower Week is the second phase of the course. Tower week consisted of jumping from a 34 foot tower in order to practice exiting the aircraft in a semi-realistic fashion. We also were taught how to properly slip or maneuver the parachute away from other jumpers and hazards. We did this by strapping into harnesses that kept our feet off the ground and used our own body weight to practice slipping. We continued to practice landing by using the swing load trainers in which a student literally swings in the air and then gets dropped in order to mimic a real parachute landing.

After a three day weekend for Labor Day, my class proceeded into jump week. We woke up every morning at 0430 and ran to the airfield. At the airfield, we conducted parachute landing falls and were critiqued by the instructors. We then re assembled and proceeded to get our parachutes and rig up. We were then inspected by the jumpmasters and waited for our chawks to be called. We jumped a total of five times; three Hollywood (no rucksack and weapons case) and two equipment jumps.

The thrill of jumping out of an airplane in flight is difficult to explain. Jumping from the aircraft gave me such a rush that I wanted to do it again and again. After your parachute deploys, you're at the mercy of the wind. On one of my jumps I caught a hot spot which inflated my parachute like a hot air balloon and kept me in the air longer than my fellow jumpers. Overall, I believe that jumping out of airplanes is the best job in the Army.

At graduation, I felt a sense of pride and accomplishment knowing that I succeeded in my first real test the Army threw at me, hopefully a sign for things to come. I encourage everyone in the battalion to work hard in school and PRT in order to try to get a slot for jump school. I had a chance to meet fellow cadets from various schools across the country, as well as enlisted and commissioned personnel from various branches of the Armed Forces. Jump school is the highlight of my experience as a cadet in the Patriot Battalion.

-Dennis Kelly

