



The Patriot Pride

Fall Newsletter Vol. 17 Issue 2

12 December 2017

Notes from the Professor of Military Science

Notes from Cadet Battalion Commander/Cadre Corner

Branching Assignments for Class of 2018

Alumni and Cadet Profiles: CPT Daniel Girouard and Cadet Dakota Coleman

Program Operations Update/Campus Update/SMP Program Update

Veterans Day Events

The Patriot Pride is published three times a year in order to inform members, alumni, and supporters of the Patriot Battalion while strengthening community ties



As is tradition, the Battalion ended the fall semester with a run at Bryant University. Bryant University President Ronald Machtley (USNA '70) owed the cadets push-ups in recognition of Army beating Navy in football last year

Notes from the Professor of Military Science: Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Wingate



During a recent swearing-in ceremony before about cadets, non-ROTC friends and students, and the cadet's family, I was especially struck by the unique value of the citizen-soldier model that ROTC represents. On a college campus far from any military base or large organization, a student pledged to support and defend our ideals and freedoms through military service. His father and mother proudly stood in the first row without any real knowledge of what military service entails but they loved that their son had found a cause bigger than himself and one that, they said, was making him work harder, walk taller, and act more confidently. Similarly, the cadet's fellow students probably did not understand much about the military but, through their friendship with the contracting cadet, they knew that one of their own was choosing to wear their country's uniform and to be a Soldier. Finally, the pride and support of the new cadet's fellow ROTC students, all in civilian clothes but sharing the uniformed cadet's pride in representing the community as future officers and as American citizens was profound. It is an honor to participate in these ceremonies largely because it marks a cadet's entry into the brotherhood and sisterhood of arms shared by American citizen-soldiers since 1775.

This last semester was a very busy one here in the Patriot Battalion. We focused our efforts on readying our advance course cadets for service as Army leaders while exposing our basic course to the fundamentals of military leadership and service. Lots of physical training sessions on the Providence College track, rucking along the East Bay bike path, tramping through the woods at Bryant University and Camp Edwards on Cape Cod, engaging in leadership discussions with guest speakers, and lively seminars in the classroom created important memories and influences on the cadets (and the cadre too).

As the end of the year nears, I am especially thankful for the cadets' willingness to serve our country, the support of families, my fellow cadres' expertise and example, the great support of our alumni and school administrations and of this opportunity to serve with this great program.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Wingate
Professor of Military Science, Providence College



The Patriot Battalion at the Obstacle Course at Camp Edwards during our Fall Field Training Exercise

Notes from the Cadet Battalion

Commander: Cadet Harris Petry

The fall semester has proven to be both challenging and exciting as cadets rotate through new roles and undertake greater responsibility within the Patriot Battalion. The MSIV class, having successfully completed the capstone Advanced Camp leadership development and assessment training during CST at Fort Knox, filled cadet officer roles in leadership and staff positions throughout the Patriot Battalion. The MSIII class, many of whom are recent graduates of Basic Camp and other professional development programs, filled the role as senior cadet NCOs and the primary trainers of the basic course cadets. The MSII class served as junior cadet NCOs. Finally, the MSI class continued to navigate the nuances of the military instruction, absorbing as much information as they can in preparation for future responsibility.



Cadet Harris Petry leading tactics training

As a member of the MSIV class I have had the pleasure of helping oversee new implementations to our Leader Development Program (LDP), aimed at evaluating and preparing the MSIII class for Advanced Camp this summer. The LDP seeks to pair MSIII cadets and MSII cadets with appropriate leadership assignments and oversight from MSIV cadets. Using a number of grading categories, cadets are evaluated on their leadership strengths and weaknesses while receiving candid feedback from an MSIV evaluator. Blue cards, similar to the means of evaluation at Advanced Camp, are used to document leadership positions and multiple blue cards from diverse evaluators create a more well rounded assessment of individual cadet's current performance in the ROTC program.

The fall semester challenged cadets through numerous physical and mental tests meant to prepare them for future service as Second Lieutenants in the US Army. Cadets navigated a semester full of adversity and are well-postured for further training in the spring semester.

Cadre Corner: Majors Calcagni and Lessard

Soon to serve as a cadre will be Major John Calcagni. He will be joining the program as an Army Reserve TPU Instructor. He is a 2000 Bryant and Patriot Battalion ROTC graduate. Welcome back!

Major Jeffrey Lessard will be leaving the Battalion to work in Rhode Island Troop Command. He has served as Patriot Battalion Executive Officer, Operations Officer, and MSIII instructor since July 2015.

Major Lessard is an alumnus of Fitchburg State University. After graduation from Officer Candidate School, he completed the Infantry Officer Basic Course and the Mechanized Leader's Course at Fort Benning, Georgia. He then spent three years serving in the 4th Infantry Division in Fort Carson, Colorado and in Iraq as a Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, and as a staff officer. After a year break in service, he joined the Rhode Island National Guard where he served as an Infantry Company Commander. After which, he worked in the Joint Forces Headquarters and in Troop Command.

His curriculum for the MSIIIs is reputed to be one of the most grueling, yet ultimately rewarding, academic endeavors in the program. He focuses heavily on understanding doctrine and the orders process and seeks to prepare the cadets for their senior year. His tutelage has been critical for the battalion's success.

Major Lessard lives in Lincoln, Rhode Island with his wife, Stephanie, and their two children. He enjoys listening to classic rock and is an avid Philadelphia Eagles fan. We wish Major Lessard all the best in his next assignment!



MAJ Lessard

Cadet Branch Assignments – Class of 2018

When senior cadets finally receive their branch assignments, they see the fruits of four laborious years pay off. Patriot Battalion cadets consistently rank among the best in the nation, with the Class of 2018 being no exception. Three of the thirteen cadets, Benjamin Bauchiero (PC), Harris Petry (PC), and Mahmoud Samori (Brown) will graduate as Distinguished Military Graduates. As DMGs, they set themselves apart from the five thousand cadets nationwide, finishing in the top fifteen percent of all seniors. CDTs Petry and Samori will graduate in the top ten percent, and as a result they were guaranteed their first branch of choice. All three will serve as Infantry officers in the regular component.



Distinguished Military Graduate Benjamin Bauchiero is all smiles after receiving Infantry



Distinguished Military Graduate Cadet Mahmoud Samori receives the Infantry's crossed rifles insignia

Also serving in the regular component are Spencer D'Aulisa (PC), who will serve in the Engineers, William Hoadley and Briana Nisbet, both Bryant students who will branch Ordnance, and Danielle Landry (RIC), who will serve as a Field Artillery officer.

The battalion also had five seniors branch into the reserve component. Colleen Kroboth of UMass Dartmouth will commission into the Army Reserves and serve as a Military Intelligence officer. Bryan Potenziani (PC) and Joseph Towle (Bryant) were SMP cadets and will continue their National Guard careers in Rhode Island. Bryan will be leaving the Field Artillery to join the Infantry, and Joe will

join the Adjutant General's Corps. Jordan Bernard (PC) will join the Connecticut Guard and will branch Medical Services. Kyle Kilner (PC) plans to join the New York Guard and is currently seeking a unit.

Selected for the extremely competitive Education Delay Program was Caleb Walters. He will continue his studies at Brown into postgraduate school, and after completion, he will commission as an officer in the Medical Corps as an Army Doctor.

Congratulations to all and best of luck in the remainder of your time in the Patriot Battalion!



SGM (Ret.) Fortunato pins Cadet Spencer D'Aulisa with the Engineer branch insignia

Cadet Profile: Cadet Dakota Coleman

(Johnson & Wales University '19)



Patriot Battalion cadets are not your average college students and Cadet Coleman is not your average cadet. Cadet Coleman is a student at Johnson at Wales University and studies culinary nutrition with the intention of becoming a Registered Dietitian. Joining the Patriot Battalion as a freshman, Coleman was soon nominated for a 3-Year Army ROTC Minuteman Scholarship from the United States Army Reserve. He now currently serves with the 443rd Civil Affairs unit in Newport. Coleman was happy to provide his view on ROTC:

“I decided to join ROTC for a couple of reasons; most importantly, I feel that my country has provided me with countless incredible opportunities. I recognize how fortunate I am to receive these

opportunities and I feel that it is only right to repay them in some manner. Personally, I feel that every citizen should strive to benefit their country and this was just my way of doing so. One of the major appeals of ROTC for me was the ability to build up a sense of brotherhood and camaraderie with my fellow cadets. From the 5th grade to the 12th grade, I was lucky enough to play for the same club soccer team, with the same team of 10 people. We were brothers, we became family. It was really unfortunate that we eventually had to part ways, but in joining ROTC and the Army I hoped to create that feeling again. My goal in the Army is to hopefully become a Military Intelligence or Chemical officer in the Army Reserves and help the people in my community.”



CDT Coleman receives instructions during the Combat Water Survival Test

Alumni Profile: Captain Daniel Girouard

Captain Dan Girouard, our program’s Recruiting Operations Officer, recently deployed with the 1-126th General Support Aviation Battalion to the Middle East region as part of a Combined Joint Task Force. The mission of the Combined Joint Task Force is to defeat ISIS in designated areas of Iraq and Syria and sets conditions for follow-on operations to increase regional stability. In support of Operation Inherent Resolve, his battalion’s mission is to provide command and control, air assault capability, mobility of personnel and equipment, and Aeromedical evacuation capability. CPT Girouard’s battalion consists of nearly 580 Soldiers and over 35 helicopters valued at over \$600 million. As the Battalion Logistics Officer (S4) he is responsible for advising the commander on all logistical considerations affecting the unit's combat power and mission capability. Dan expects to return to PC in the fall of 2018.



Captain Girouard on deployment in Iraq

Patriot Battalion Operations Update

This fall, cadets of the Patriot Battalion participated in a wide variety of tactical training exercises that were designed to develop each cadet's individual abilities, as well as assess their leadership abilities when placed in a simulated combat environment. Throughout this semester, cadets participated in their weekly ROTC leadership labs and classes in which they learned the basic principles of leadership and Army life and how to operate as a member of a small unit infantry squad.

The semester began with instruction on basic soldiering skills such as land navigation, primary marksmanship instruction, individual movement techniques, squad movement techniques, communication equipment familiarization, and tactical combat casualty care. The senior and junior cadets instructed the freshman and sophomore cadets on these basic soldiering skills in order to help each individual become more of an asset to their squad, as well as learn the requirements that every soldier must master.



Once the cadets gained a deeper understanding of how they can become better individual soldiers, the training shifted towards better team performance. Cadets participated in several squad situational training exercises at Bryant University. In these squad training exercises, junior cadets were assessed on their leadership abilities and on the successes or failures of their squads across a variety of different missions. Each member had to work together to accomplish their mission's goal, which followed the basic principles of a squad assault.



After the Patriot Battalion gained sufficient training on their individual techniques and their squad performance, they participated in a weekend-long, field training exercise at Joint Base Cape Cod. Each cadet that is contracted with the United States Army must participate in a field training exercise once per semester where they must demonstrate everything that they have learned, as well as be assessed on their tactical leadership abilities. This field

training exercise began early Friday morning with daytime land navigation and then later transitioned into nighttime land navigation. On Friday night, cadets ran through patrol base operations before gearing up for their squad situational training exercises which took place all day Saturday. During the squad situational training exercises, the cadets were tested on their performance and leadership abilities on missions such as an ambush, squad assault, deliberate attack, raid, and area reconnaissance. At the completion of the situational training exercise, cadets participated in patrol base operations and were given the opportunity to independently plan platoon sized missions. On Sunday, all Patriot Battalion cadets were tested in their leadership abilities outside of a tactical environment in a leadership reaction obstacle course. Immediately after, cadets ran through an Air Assault School obstacle course, ending with a squad relay race. This field training exercise tested cadets both physically and mentally to better prepare them for the tactical training of spring semester.



Campus Focus: Brown University

(Written by Cadet Kaela Lynch, Brown '19)

Sometimes, it is difficult for people to understand how being a student at Brown University and a cadet in the Patriot Battalion can work, largely because Brown ROTC cadets are such a small contingent of both populations. However, slowly but surely, through everyday interactions, events, and growing numbers, we are working to create more ROTC visibility and awareness up on College Hill. Throughout my time at Brown, I've witnessed firsthand how this intersection

between a proud Liberal Arts institution and ROTC is challenging, but also incredibly powerful. In my three years, I have seen our Brown contingent grow from 4 cadets to 8, Brown publications become more interested in ROTC and veteran presence on our campus, and both Navy and Air Force ROTC programs reactivated last fall. This growth positively impacts our on-campus exposure, but through personal interactions with fellow students and professors, we are most able to impact change on an everyday level. Most people on campus have no personal connection to the military, so it's no surprise that we receive lots of curious looks whenever we walk to classes and dining halls in our uniforms. During my freshman year, I found this especially true as there were far fewer of us to see. Occasionally, a classmate would muster the courage to ask about my affiliation with the military. Although it took some time, I learned that I enjoyed answering these questions. After speaking with several students who would approach me in the dining halls, I learned that I loved to explain what ROTC is about and how much I enjoy the camaraderie it offers and the confidence it cultivates. I realized that I had the ability to explain myself in a positive and empowering manner capable of creating constructive discussion versus collective misunderstanding.



Brown University Army ROTC cadets after a home-station physical training session

surprised that this option exists here. Many of my fellow students simply want more information on PRT, military science classes, and post-graduation service requirements. When given the opportunity to talk with my peers about ROTC, I have found it is often ignorance and not disapproval behind the usually strange looks we get on days we wear the uniform. And as these conversations spread and our contingent grows, I have seen less and less of these strange looks that marked my freshman year, and more waves and smiles as I encounter people who know me personally or another cadet; we have become a well-recognized family on campus.

Being a cadet at Brown has been a very valuable experience for me, especially because I was raised as an Army brat. I have been surrounded by the military my entire life, and the broader spectrum of opinions on the military, especially on college campuses, have been challenging to handle at times. Before coming to Brown, I had truly never encountered people whose fundamental values of service differed from mine, and encountering these differences has been one of the most important parts of my college experience. Being able to openly discuss conflicting views and values with peers is a critical part of being an effective leader and an informed individual. This also points to the importance of having so many schools represented in the Patriot Battalion. Working, discussing ideas, and learning from people of diverse backgrounds and upbringings makes each cadet more prepared for a career of officership and life well beyond college campuses.

Brown students, faculty, and staff are intrinsically curious people; thus, most are curious about what ROTC entails and/or

SMP Unit Spotlight:

169th Military Police Company

The Simultaneous Membership Program is a unique opportunity allowing cadets to receive additional exposure and leadership development in the National Guard or Army Reserves. In addition to weekly ROTC training, SMP cadets attend monthly drills and Annual Training. SMP Cadets of the Patriot Battalion are currently serving in several different units in both the National Guard and Reserves in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut.



The 169th Military Police Company, which is part of the 43rd Military Police Brigade, is one of the oldest National Guard units in the country. Having been first organized in 1755, the unit traces its origins back to 1736. Before officially becoming the 169th MP Company in 1968, the unit was active in many battles of the American Revolution and also secured battle streamers from the War of 1812 and Bull Run in the Civil War. The unit also took part in the coastal defense of Narragansett



Bay during both World Wars and was involved in support operations during the Cold War. Before 1968, the predecessor unit to the 169th had been an Infantry, Coastal Artillery, and Engineer unit, among other assignments. Recently, the 169th has been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

One of the many tasks for MP units is to train for crowd control and riot mitigation

SMP cadets of the 169th work with officers and NCOs to execute training for MP missions. Cadets engage in riot control, detention operations, and learn about using less-than-lethal force. They also learn to maintain and operate vehicles and have opportunities to qualify on multiple individual and crew-served weapons

systems. Furthermore, cadets participate in the MP Pentathlon, which includes conducting the following events: preventative maintenance checks and services on a vehicle/crew-served weapon, mounted movement-to-contact, Individual Movement Technique/Push-up challenge, dismounted patrol and casualty evacuation, and a riot control mission.

Current and recent Patriot Battalion members of the 169th Military Police Company include Cadet Joseph Towle and 2016 commissionee 2LT Douglas Kingsley. The current commander is CPT Eric Higgins, a 2010 Bryant and Patriot Battalion alumnus.

Patriot Battalion Veterans Day Ceremony

The Patriot Battalion hosted a Veterans Day Ceremony at Providence this November. Over 140 people attended the event featuring remarks from Providence College's Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Father Mark Nowel, Guest Speaker Colonel Matt Tackett from the U.S. Naval War College, Lieutenant Colonel Wingate, and Cadet Shawn McElligott. Many veterans and program alumni as well as members of the community joined the cadets to remember and honor the selfless service of veterans. Following the event held at the Providence College Chapel, everyone in attendance gathered for a reception, during which past and present members of the program came together in a social setting. Thanks to all who made the event a great success!



The Color Guard stands at the back of the chapel before presenting the colors



Cadets grin for a picture before the Veterans Day Ceremony begins



Captain Peter Fiol addresses those in attendance at the program's Veterans Day Ceremony



Colonel Matthew Tackett, an instructor at the Naval War College, visited the Battalion, had lunch with senior cadets, and served as the guest speaker at the Veterans Day Ceremony

Parting Images



Cadet Butterfield took home the MVP Trophy from the Patriot Battalion's 2017 Turkey Bowl



Patriot Battalion Ranger Challenge cadets conduct PRT to prepare themselves for the Ranger Challenge Competition, held from October 13 to 15 at Fort Dix, New Jersey. The Patriot Battalion team returned home from the event with a streamer for a top finish in land navigation and an overall finish in the top half of all teams