



# The Lookout

## August 2018



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Photo by MIDN 1/C Kanne



Photo by MIDN 1/C Kanne

**Above: 4/C Midshipmen walk in formation back to the unit after morning PT.**

**Above Right: The top three Midshipmen of NSO are recognized by the CO.**

## Screaming into the School Year

### MIDN 1/C Peri

Georgia Tech NROTC held New Student Orientation (NSO) for 21 incoming 4/C Midshipman from Aug 14-17 at the NROTC unit on campus. During NSO, the incoming 4/C were fully immersed in a training environment that was modeled to remind them that they are joining the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Over the course of NSO, the new 4/C took an inventory Physical Readiness Test (PRT), took their Swim Qualification Test, learned how to do Close Order Drill (COD), learned about the history and rank structure of the Navy

and Marine Corps, and much more.

New Student Orientation began at 0700 on Tuesday, 14AUG, and lasted till 1600 on Friday, 17AUG. NSO began with a welcome aboard brief from the Commanding Officer, CAPT Reinhold, to the new students and their family members.

“Shock and Awe” immediately followed. GySgt Posey came in, pulled the students out, and they were immediately thrust into NSO.

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# 4<sup>th</sup> Class Indoctrination Culminates with Operation Breaking Point

## MIDN 2/C Boyer

On 25AUG, the 4/C from both battalions gathered at Camp Westminster for an early morning that would bring them to their limits. Operation Breaking Point is an annual exercise meant to provide a high stress training environment for 4/C Midshipman, and this year was no exception.

Getting up before the sunrise, the 4/C started the day out with squad exercises, as one member sprinted a quarter mile. Afterwards they transitioned to squad movements. They moved as if on a combat patrol—taking extra supplies and fireman carrying their “wounded” comrades. After the patrol, they learned the basics of combat movement: the low-crawl, high-crawl, pistol belt drag, and

low-crawl with a buddy.

Tired and sweaty, they had done more by 9am than most people would do all day. However, they were not yet done. Next, they were given the opportunity to demonstrate peer leadership as the squads went on a one mile patrol loop. Upon encountering another squad, they low crawled towards each other, and then carried their casualties from the engagement for the rest of the mile loop, encouraging each other along the way and ensuring that they left no one behind.

Lastly, they had a one mile motivational run, finishing out a morning full of intensity and hard work. Afterwards, they were rewarded with a MWR picnic, and an opportunity to relax and enjoy the beautiful late summer weather!



Photo by MIDN 3/C Ward

**Above: Midshipmen practice the buddy drag.**

**Below Left: In formation, Midshipmen receive instruction.**

**Below Right: Midshipmen exercise with flutter kicks.**



Photo by MIDN 3/C Ward



Photo by MIDN 3/C Ward

## NSO

*From Page 1*

Day 1 was spent going through admin procedures, meeting with the freshman Advisor, LT Vangel, and uniform issue and tailoring. The students had to stand watch each night in one-hour shifts, as an introduction to standing watch in ROTC and in the fleet.

Day 2 consisted of running the PRT and learning basic COD.

Day 3 consisted of Swim Qualls and learning about the Navy and Marine Corps.

Day 4 wrapped up training with a Moto Run, Final Drill session, and a debrief with NSO staff where we welcomed them into our Georgia Tech NROTC Battalion.

Over the course of NSO, the 4/C were tested mentally, physically, and emotionally in order to see how they would respond. There were ups and downs all throughout, but at the end they all performed well and are well prepared for their 4/C year as a part of the GTNROTC battalion.

# Consortium Picnic Kicks off Semester

## MIDN 1/C Esposito

On the morning of Saturday 25AUG, as the Atlanta NROTC Consortium's newest 4/C midshipmen finished up their last stage of New Student Orientation, affectionately named Operation Breaking Point, they were joined by the rest of the Georgia Tech and Morehouse battalions on the grounds of Camp Westminster for the annual Consortium Picnic. For the 4/C midshipmen, this was a well-deserved break, having just successfully completed their ultimate test and becoming official members of the consortium. For many of the upperclassmen, this was their first chance

to officially meet the new midshipmen and get to know them in a relaxed setting.

Once everyone arrived, the picnic began with a warm welcome from CAPT Reinhold, who praised the success of that morning's evolution and shared his excitement for the upcoming semester as the hamburgers and hot dogs grilling in the background were just about done. To the merriment of many tired and hungry faces, there was no time wasted in commencing chow once the CO concluded his speech.

Next came the part most upperclassmen always look forward

to: 4/C introductions. In this tradition, the new members of the consortium give their names and a bit of background information, as well as an interesting fact about themselves. This fact is judged by the consortium as a whole on the basis of whether it is interesting enough.

The introductions were followed by a series of highly competitive tug-of-war matches including midshipmen, permanent staff, and even the CO and XO. This set the bragging rights until the next picnic comes around. Finally, there were numerous sports competitions. With that another successful consortium picnic was concluded!

## Summer Cruise Snippets



**Left: MIDN Ward in front of the T-34 before his flight.**

**Right: MIDN Knecht with fellow MIDN on his Cruise.**



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Knecht

"My summer cruise was an exceptional learning experience. It helped me understand the attitude of the submarine community and sold me on trying to pursue it myself. I was able to try almost everything on the sub, and the crew was very hospitable and knowledgeable in regard to my questions and concerns."

- MIDN 2/C McFadden

"Getting to sit in the cockpit, taxi out, and give that first salute was literally like a dream come true. Then you see the ground just move away from under your feet. It's an indescribable feeling of joy and of being alive. It was a life changing experience."

- MIDN 1/C Knecht

"CORTRAMID was a fantastic experience—being among the Marines and Sailors who spend their days and nights on call allowed me to learn a lot about how fast-paced the fleet is. I particularly enjoyed Marine and Aviation week. Not everyone gets to shoot state-of-the-art weapons or fly over San Diego in an acrobatic aircraft."

- MIDN 3/C Ward

# NROTC takes to the YPs



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Lehmann  
**4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations in Baltimore as seen from the YP.**

## MIDN 1/C Lehmann

I was able to spend 4 weeks at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD for my YP Cruise. A YP is a 116 ft patrol craft provides realistic, at-sea training and is completely Midshipman-run. Only one week of my cruise was spent doing classroom training, ship driving simulators, and practical application in the river by the Academy. In the remaining three weeks, we made our way from Annapolis to Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and then to Boston, before coming back home to Maryland. It was an incredible learning experience and I made some great friends along the way.

On my boat, we had a crew size of 37. Of those 37, 29 were Midshipmen, 6 were enlisted, and 2 were Lieutenants. When I say the boat is Midshipman-run, I mean that all tasks and watch stations—even cooking—are handled by Midshipmen. The enlisted and the officers are there to advise us and to ensure that we make it to our destination safely. However, the Midshipmen are the ones doing all the navigation, conning, RADAR operations, plotting,

communications, standing anchor watch, line handling, etc. On my YP, I was the Executive Officer (XO), so I had the responsibility of writing the Plan of the Day, handling all inspections, and working with the Department Heads, the Midshipmen Training Officer, Operations Officer, and Administration Officer to make sure we were completing all required training and evolutions. As XO, I was not on the watch bill, but I liked to go up to the Pilot House to observe and learn the positions when I had free time.

Week one was spent in Annapolis. We spent a lot of time in the classroom and simulator, but eventually we took out the YP's. I stayed in Bancroft Hall with the USNA Midshipmen, which was an exciting and unique experience, and I got to see I-Day! We spent the rest of the week studying and reviewing navigation, Rules of the Road, and practicing watch positions in the simulator.

Each of the four ports were absolutely amazing, and I loved that we got liberty at each port. We spent 4th of July in Baltimore, and were able to visit Fort McHenry,

the founding location of the Star-Spangled Banner! In Philadelphia we saw Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. The transit between Baltimore and Philadelphia was extremely exciting, at one point we had land only 100 feet away from either side of the boat!

Our last two ports were New York, NY and Boston, MA. On the way from NY to Boston, we practiced DIVTACS, which are formations of the four YPs that travelled together. We also anchored overnight, which was exciting because we were the ones that got to let down the anchor! Although, we also had to stand anchor watch all night. In NY, we got to see all the tourist sights, and in Boston we did the Freedom Trail!

Overall, it was an incredible learning experience and I will be able to take a lot of practical knowledge to the fleet. I got to meet some truly amazing people, with whom I will be serving shortly! I loved seeing all of the cities and spending time sightseeing some of the most historic sites in the country. It made me extremely excited to serve in the world's greatest Navy!



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Lehmann

**MIDN Lehmann in front of the burgeoning New York skyline.**

# My time with the Korean Navy

## MIDN 1/C Raney

MIDN 1/C Lochmann and I ventured across the Pacific this summer to train with our close allies in the Republic of Korea Navy (ROKN). Eight U.S. Midshipmen were sent to join a whole class from the ROK Naval Academy on their summer training. We were in Korea for 32 days, half of those at sea. The other half of the time we were in different ports from the West Sea to the East Sea. We ended up visiting six of their eight naval bases and met over half of all the admirals in the ROKN. At each of those ports, we had various tours and programs set up for us as well as banquets with each base's commander. On rare occasion, we were granted liberty, where we got to really experience Korea and its culture.

Our most eventful port visit, and one of the best, was our stop at Jeju-do. Jeju is an island located just south of the Korean



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Raney

## MIDN of the U.S. and ROKN pose atop one of Korea's many peaks.

peninsula. Appropriately nicknamed Korea's Hawaii, Jeju is a popular vacation spot for many Koreans, with its famous beaches and palm trees. But alas, we were not there for vacation. No, we were there to hike Mount Hallasan. We were made aware of an apparent hike at some point during the training but little did we know it would be Korea's highest mountain at 6,398 feet (1,950 meters) tall.

They woke us up at 0500 and bused us over to the base of the mountain to begin the hike. The first section was a nice easy grade but it soon turned into a full climb that didn't stop until we reached the top. Hiking is essentially the national sport of Korea. On the hike, there were groups of 70 year old Koreans hiking like it was nothing. For us however, it quite possibly was the hardest physical challenge we've ever endured. After a grueling five hours up to the top, the view was spectacular but didn't quite make up for the four more hours we had ahead. When we arrived back at the bottom, they had the Korean Marine Corps Band playing for us and a general to shake our hands. Once that was over, the rest of our time on Jeju was spent playing sports and about 10 hours of liberty.

Perhaps my favorite part of the training was all the soccer.



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Raney

## MIDN Raney (front right) with Midshipmen of the ROKN.

The Lookout

# OCS through the eyes of a prior enlisted Marine



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Park

## Candidates trek through muddy waters during training at OCS.

### MIDN 1/C Park

As a prior enlisted Marine, a couple of candidates asked me which was harder: OCS or boot camp. Although I did plenty of comparing from the first day of Officer Candidates School, the answer wasn't as clear cut as they were expecting. Both training evolutions serve completely different purposes. However, I told them there were aspects of each which totally balanced the two out. Overall, I'd compare OCS to a sprint and recruit training to a long-distance run.

Recruit training was designed to make a basic trained enlisted Marine. You don't exactly have any responsibilities outside of moving quickly and following directions unless you have a collateral billet. Keep in mind that this doesn't make it any less taxing; if anything, it gives you more of a reason to be moving harder or faster. Now on the opposite end of the spectrum, Officer Candidates School was designed to make leaders of Marines. You have the very

responsibilities which follow throughout your entire time in the Marine Corps: accountability and coordination. This could mean staying up later than the other candidates to make sure everything for the next day was set, eating quicker to make sure you were among the first to be outside to coordinate, or getting back earlier from leave to make sure everyone was back.

You PT every day in Officer Candidates School. If you were in a billet or were just a repeat offender for mistakes, you probably PT'd every day in recruit training as well. OCS expects every candidate to arrive and leave

with a first class PFT score. As Marine officers are expected to lead from the front, candidates' cardio and upper body strength had to be solid to be retained. You PT the same amount in recruit training, but just over a longer timeline. Even without company-wide PT sessions every morning, you're always moving from point to point at an uncomfortable pace or you're getting pulled out of formation for an incentive PT session. You're consistently moving at both evolutions.

Whether officer or enlisted, the Marine Corps effectively produces what it wants. These separate evolutions are designed to produce different things, and so again, it doesn't make much sense to compare them in terms of difficulty. Having been to both, I feel extremely thankful to have seen both sides of the Marine Corps; in order to lead, you must know how to follow. These experiences will undoubtedly give me insight to effectively leading and training my Marines in the future.



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Park

## MIDN 1/C Park completes the ammo can lift portion of the CFT.

# Meet the Fourth Class



Name: Mahmoud Abusaid  
Hometown: Marietta, GA  
Major: Computer Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: SWO  
Three Favorite Activities: Hiking,  
Eating, Experiencing New Things



Name: Timothy Bowes  
Hometown: Norfolk, VA  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: Submarine  
Three Favorite Activities: 3D Print-  
ing, Programming, Playing Sports



Name: Nicole Bucci  
Hometown: Orlando, FL  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Water Po-  
lo, Swimming, Going to the Beach



Name: Harrison Andrews  
Hometown: Sandy Springs, GA  
Major: Information Systems  
Desired Service Selection: Infantry Officer  
Three Favorite Activities: Watching Foot-  
ball, Playing Lacrosse, Tailgating



Name: Chase Anania  
Hometown: Kingsland, GA  
Major: Economics & International affairs  
Desired Service Selection: NFO  
Three Favorite Activities: Sleeping,  
Cheerleading, Blasting EDM



Name: Carl Daron  
Hometown: Kennesaw, GA  
Major: Criminal Justice  
Desired Service Selection: Special Operations  
Three Favorite Activities: Playing Guitar,  
Hunting, Trail Riding



Name: Benjamin Connor  
Hometown: Duluth, GA  
Major: Literature, Media, & Communication  
Desired Service Selection: Infantry  
Three Favorite Activities: Hanging with  
Friends, Competing, Reading



Name: Dalton Childs  
Hometown: Branford, CT  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Hockey,  
Spending time on the Water, Traveling



Name: Reed Deane  
Hometown: Valdosta, GA  
Major: Finance  
Desired Service Selection: Special Warfare  
Three Favorite Activities: Running, Re-  
search, Training for Special Warfare



Name: John Corker  
Hometown: Kingsport, TN  
Major: Physics  
Desired Service Selection: Submarine  
Three Favorite Activities: Talking with  
Friends, Tennis, Strategy Games



Name: Nick Cordova  
Hometown: McDonough, GA  
Major: Criminal Justice  
Desired Service Selection: Ground Intel  
Three Favorite Activities: Working  
Out, Hanging with Friends, Learning



Name: Liam Holliday  
Hometown: Concord, GA  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: SWO  
Three Favorite Activities: Eating,  
Traveling, Going to Church



Name: Lake Miller  
Hometown: Chattanooga, TN  
Major: Psychology  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Reading,  
Horseback Riding, Baking



Name: Patrick Dee  
Hometown: Lake George, NY  
Major: Nuclear Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: SWO  
Three Favorite Activities: Running,  
Hiking, Shooting



Name: Riain Nelson  
Hometown: Dallas, GA  
Major: Computer Science  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Football,  
Boating, Watching The Office



Name: Melina Maldonado  
Hometown: Canton, GA  
Major: Biomedical Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Hanging with  
Friends, Playing Sports, Going on Adventures



Name: Melissa Kobrin  
Hometown: Greensboro, NC  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: SWO  
Three Favorite Activities: Reading,  
Hanging with Friends, SCUBA Diving



Name: Philip Pyo  
Hometown: Johns Creek, GA  
Major: Political Science  
Desired Service Selection: Special Warfare  
Three Favorite Activities: Working out, Eating, Sleeping



Name: Camille Tanksley  
Hometown: Atlanta, GA  
Major: Economics  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Watching Netflix, Hanging with Friends, Working Out



Name: William Stearns  
Hometown: Annapolis, MD  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Hiking, Photography, Skiing



Name: Dakota Vince  
Hometown: Girard, OH  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: SWO  
Three Favorite Activities: Driving, Surfing, Going to the Movies



Name: John Rittenberry  
Hometown: Lilburn, GA  
Major: Aerospace Engineering  
Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
Three Favorite Activities: Flying, Hiking, Spending time with Family



Name: Emily Olson  
Hometown: Willmar, MN  
Major: Mathematics  
Desired Service Selection: Submarine  
Three Favorite Activities: Reading, Going on Walks, Learning New Things



Name: Daphne Willingham  
 Hometown: Cocoa Beach, FL  
 Major: Aerospace Engineering  
 Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
 Three Favorite Activities: Rugby, Going to Concerts, Reading



Name: Courtney Williams  
 Hometown: Prince Frederick, MD  
 Major: Nuclear Engineering  
 Desired Service Selection: Aviation  
 Three Favorite Activities: Spending time with Family & Friends, Playing Sports, Camping

# Say Hello to the XO

## MIDN 2/C Guild

The *Lookout* spoke to Maj Pomeroy, the new Executive Officer (XO) to learn who he is outside of his bio.

*Lookout:* What was your motivation for coming to an NROTC unit?

XO: As someone who didn't do ROTC, but who participated in PLC, the welcoming attitude and training they provided helped immensely at OCS and TBS. That open arms attitude is something I wish to emulate and impart here.

*Lookout:* What excites you the most about being with an NROTC unit?

XO: I'm excited about working with you, the Midshipmen. You motivate me and excite me. Attitude is everything and being able to come here and experience the energy that you bring to the table is great. I've only been here a short time, but I can already tell that it is a rewarding job. I get to see every-

one grow and mature and apply what is learned here in the fleet.

*Lookout:* Is there anything that you are anxious about with this new job?

XO: As a Marine, I can't admit that I'm anxious about anything. In reality though, the size of the consortium is something experienced nowhere else in the nation. It is a fantastic opportunity for these schools and students, but the behind the scenes work is intense.

*Lookout:* What motivates you on a daily basis to perform your best?

XO: My motivation starts before I get to work. It's my perfect family and they are my driving force. Once I pull into the parking lot at work, however, it's trying to make that day the best. No one is perfect, myself included. We are going to make mistakes. The goal is no learn from it, not repeat it, and then improve for the next time. My goal here is to make life better for every member



**Maj Pomeroy, the new XO, checked onboard this past June.**

of the unit. Whatever I can do to remove road blocks, I will, so that you can train to the highest caliber. That's the sweet spot.

*Lookout:* Is there anything that you would care to share with Midshipmen that you haven't yet?

XO: Everything is a graded event, and attitude is everything, so make sure that you are putting forth your best effort all the time.



Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Raney

### **MIDN after hiking the infamous Mt. Hallasan.**

#### **Korea**

*From Page 1*

Every base had a soccer field in front of the base headquarters and futsal courts were abundant. We were also lucky enough to watch the World Cup Final on the ship in the galley. If you had to have three skills to survive in Korea, I would recommend soccer, hiking, and an ability to withstand spicy foods.

During my journey, we ate a lot of kimchi. Kimchi is a dish from salted, fermented vegetables, commonly cabbage, seasoned with things such as chili powder, garlic, and ginger. It was present at every meal. I don't mean just lunch and dinner. Even breakfast included kimchi. Rice and kimchi, all day, every day. One morning we had a special concoction of rice, kimchi, sardines, and strawberry milk. We agreed that it was the weirdest combo of foods ever, and we couldn't wait to have an American

breakfast when we returned to the states.

Not all of the food was bad though. Especially when we got off base, we ate some fantastic food. The first place we stopped at in our first port was a Korean BBQ joint. That was the best Korean BBQ any of us had ever had, and for a third of how much it would cost at home. In Jeju we had a specialty pork they called black pig, only served on Jeju. Additionally, their traditional pork noodle soup was my favorite meal of the trip. The weirdest food I ate in Korea came when we were in Pohang, in the southeast part of Korea. We had limited time for liberty in town so we just went straight to a sashimi restaurant. There we were served delicacies such as fish head, insect pupae, and sea squirts.

Besides our time in port, we learned a lot of great information about the Korean Navy. Spending all that time with the Korean Midshipmen and Sailors allowed us to gain a lot of insight into their operations. Whenever we were at sea, the sailors on the ship gave us lessons on different parts of the Navy. These spanned from lessons about their disputed islands with China and Japan to general navigation lessons. One

of the most important topics we learned about was the recent conflicts over the past few decades with the North Koreans. In the West Sea, the Korean Second Fleet has had multiple confrontations on the Northern Limit Line. In Pyeongtaek, we visited a museum for all of these conflicts. One of the ROKN patrol ships that was sunk by a North Korean sub was brought back up and made into a part of the museum. This was the most powerful part of the visit because you could walk under the ship and see the destruction caused by the torpedo. It really put a new perspective on the ongoing conflict.

One part that really impressed us was how much respect they had for us and American officers. The Korean officers treated us with a lot of respect and professionalism. Additionally, the American Navy has had a huge impact on the ROKN since its creation in the late 1940's with many of their methods being adopted from the US Navy.

It wasn't the typical 1/C cruise, but in the end, we came out of this training with a better understanding of Korean culture, Navy, and history. It could not have been in a more appropriate area for our profession as future naval officers.



**The view from the top of Mt. Hallasan.**

Photo Courtesy of MIDN 1/C Raney