

Spring 2023



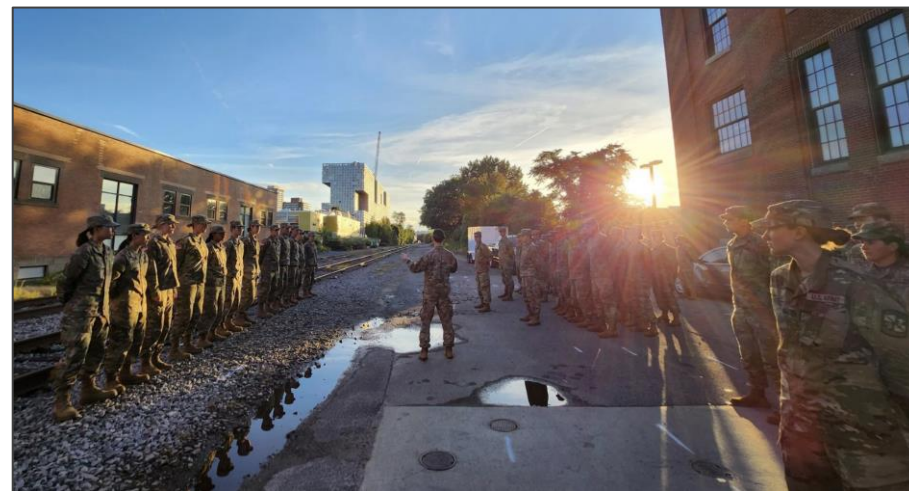
Revere Recorder

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Paul Revere Battalion History

MIT established the Army ROTC Paul Revere Battalion in 1917, one year after the passage of the National Defense Act of 1916. During World War I, more Army Officers came from MIT than from any other school (with the exception of West Point). Of the 1,538 military participants in World War II from MIT, 1,335 were Commissioned Officers. The battalion's history would go on to fill many pages with individual accounts of bravery on the battlefield as well as scientific and technical achievements in military laboratories. Today our battalion's history is shaped by the wide variety of students from MIT, Harvard University, Tufts University, Wellesley University, New England Conservatory of Music, Gordon College, Salem State University, and Endicott College. Yet our history does not stop here. It continues to be written by the men and women of the Paul Revere Battalion, whenever the call may come.





Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

The Revere Recorder serves to highlight the big events of the semester. It is a macroscopic view of the events that were held and the experiences that were had. However, there are moments and memories that are not captured in its pages. Moments like the overwhelming feeling of pride when you see your peers besting hundreds of contestants at the Fenway Spartan Race, the exhilaration of being accepted to your top choice branch or leading your first platoon mission on a Field Training Exercise. The moments of laughter shared at post PT breakfast and the stories shared on long car rides to MIT. The thumbs up, the fist bumps, and the best friend handshakes. These microscopic moments may not be explicitly listed in these pages, but they fill in the gaps of the words and images in this semester's Revere Recorder. We hope that as you read the following stories, you take the time to remember the small moments too.

We would also like to thank all of those who have donated to our program. Please visit the back cover if you are interested in helping fund similar opportunities for our cadets in the future.

The views expressed in this journal are those of the authors and do not reflect the official policy or position of the US Army, Department of Defense, or the US Government.

Best Regards,

Jonathan Van Bebber
CDT, Editor

Letter from the Professor of Military Science



The Paul Revere Battalion continues to be an elite program within U.S. Army Cadet Command as we officially emerge from the COVID-19 hangover. This year, the Battalion was the #2 Program in the Brigade as the Cadets continue to be at the forefront of the program. Helping mentor, guide, and coach these amazing young men and women are three new cadre members, MAJ Starlet Baker,

MSG John Wolcott and MSG Ben Collins. The university, the program, and Cadet Command gladly welcome you as you begin this journey of working with the best and brightest Cadets faculty in the Nation.

Coming off Cadet Summer Training, this year's Senior Class is the best in recent history. Cadet Maddy Gavitt and Grace Motes are the #3 and #250 Cadet in the National Order of Merit List, making them top 10% in the nation. The Battalion tone: "NO FEAR!" continues to showcase the exemplary effort each Cadets puts forth, making the ROTC program a national powerhouse. Accompanying these amazing statistics are the incredible opportunities the Cadets of this program are able to experience. Nowhere else in the country will you find the combination of a physically fit Ranger Challenge Team to the technical and tactical prototyping and development of software and hardware with the Hackathon Team. Additionally, and recently added, is the opportunity for Cadets to conduct Undergraduate Research (UROP) with the Institute of Soldier Nanotechnologies, taking their STEM gift and using it to enhance

real world capabilities to be used by Soldiers currently deployed. The institution and the Army ROTC program would like to graciously thank Aneal Krishnan (MIT Class of '01 and ROTC Alumni) for his generous gift and allowing these Cadets the ability to focus on something bigger than their own personal research. The field training, Leadership Labs, foundational coursework and training events enables the Paul Revere BN to remain the top-notch commissioning sources in the nation, having produced some of the highest quality and well-rounded leaders of character. This will forever be the mantra and goal of every Cadet and Cadre to pass thru the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Army ROTC Paul Revere Battalion. I would like to graciously thank each and every alumni, service member, institute faculty member, and supporter of the Army ROTC Department of Military Science for entrusting in the Cadre to guide and mentor the sons and daughters serving this amazing country.

NO FEAR!!

Thomas A. Allen
Major, Signal Corps
Professor of Military Science)

Letter from the Battalion Commander



It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Battalion Commander for the Spring 2023 semester. Thank you to everyone who has made these last 4 months happen. From the incredible mentorship and support of the cadre, to the hard work of cadet staff, to everyone who has given their time, sweat, and effort – thank you. This has been a semester of excellence because of you all.

This spring, I have been lucky enough to work alongside some of the most intelligent and driven people I know. The cadet staff and cadet senior NCOs have been instrumental in planning and executing a rigorous spring training schedule. Their consistent work has set the MS3s up for success at CST this summer and primed the MS2s and MS1s to take on new leadership roles and extra responsibilities.

As my fellow MS4s and I prepare to leave the program, I can't help but admire the comradery and motivation I see among our underclassmen. This semester's squad challenge competition highlighted the unique bonds that exist amongst our younger cadets, and projects like the reimagining of the Cadet Lounge showed their initiative. To our younger cadets: cherish your relationships with each other and don't let off the gas.

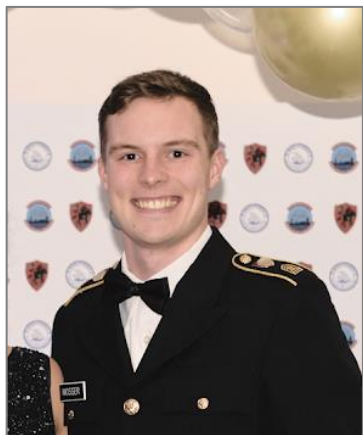
Three years ago, I was wrapping up my first year of college from my childhood bedroom. Covid had turned everything I expected college and ROTC to be on its head.

However, these last three years I have been a part of a team that has not only overcome the obstacles thrown their way but thrived in them. Leaving the battalion this May will certainly be bittersweet, but I am confident that I am leaving it in good hands. I am incredibly proud of the work we have done here, and to those who will carry the torch next semester: stay hungry.

No Fear!

CDT Connolly Ferraro

Letter from the Command Sergeant Major



It was my honor to serve as your Cadet CSM this semester. Like every year, it's had its ups and downs, but the thing that always remained constant is the motivation and hard work that I witnessed from everyone in the battalion week in and week out. Whether it was crushing an ACFT, pretending to not be cold while doing drill and ceremony, or whipping through a math worksheet, everyone

always came to work and get better. That is something I am incredibly proud of and all of you should be as well.

I remember my MSI year when the only interactions I had with other cadets were over zoom or during random PT sessions with MAJ Allen at Magazine Beach. We planned ambushes by moving boxes around on PowerPoint slides and woke up at 0600 on Fridays to do mandatory zoom yoga. I did not realize it at the time, but looking back on it I missed out on what makes our battalion really special, the cadets. I'm fully aware of how cheesy that sounds, but, as I've had the privilege of getting to know more of our battalion throughout my three years here, it never ceases to amaze me how unique and impressive each cadet is. As was mentioned at the change of command ceremony, this battalion is a family. I encourage you all to take time to slow down and cherish the people around you while they're still here.

To the MSIs - It's been my pleasure to see how much you've all grown this semester in your knowledge, confidence, and camaraderie.

To me that is a testament to not only your superb work ethic, but also to the great leadership you had from your junior leaders. I encourage you to begin thinking about how you can be a similar leader for the new cadets that we'll meet in the fall.

To the MSIVs - I cannot express how thankful I am for the work and the fantastic examples that you've given me and my peers over the years. It's really hard for me to say bye because I can't imagine my ROTC experience without you all, but I wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors.

To everyone else - I've been thoroughly impressed with how all of you have risen to occasion and grown as leaders throughout this past semester. Keep up the good work, and I'm excited to see you all back in the fall.

No Fear!

CDT Mark Mosser

Ranger Challenge

CDT *Daniel Lotwin*, MSII



Ranger Challenge is the Army ROTC varsity sport. Throughout the fall semester, teams from all over the country train to eventually compete in their respective brigades' Ranger Challenge competitions. Our brigade is part of the 2nd Brigade and competes at Fort Dix, New Jersey every year against almost 50 other ROTC programs from the northeast. This past year we competed in 10 events over the course of 3 days: the army combat fitness test, land navigation, tactical combat casualty care, grenade toss lane, burden, weapons assembly, one rope bridge, obstacle course, tug of war, and 6-mile ruck. Each event is scored and worth a specific number of points which are added up on the final day to determine team placings. Our team was particularly strong this year, with overwhelming participation from the freshman and sophomore year classes. Although we require at least one cadet from each MS year in all events, we hope to continue the high level of enthusiasm and participation among the underclassmen so that we can go into the

2023 season stronger than ever and win. Ranger Challenge is especially a great opportunity for those interested in serving in combat arms since the competition exposes participants to a wide range of skills and experiences that will prove to be beneficial in their Army careers. However, I encourage everyone to try Ranger Challenge at least once regardless of their desired branch since it is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow cadets, cadre, and your own strengths and limitations. Although the team is limited to 12 people, 9 participants and 3 alternates, cadets are encouraged to go to the competition to serve in a supportive roles. I would recommend that cadets who don't make the team keep persevering by attending practices and helping out at the competition. Hard work is highly valued and there's always opportunities for people who want to participate.



Hackathon

CDT *Joe Cahaly*, MSIII



The hackathon is one of our battalion's most unique opportunities. The hackathon consists of hackathon weekend in early fall, a trip to Fort Bragg in January, and an end-of-year presentation at Lincoln Labs. Also, there is an associated internship over the summer, which some of our battalion's cadets will be pursuing for the summer.

Over hackathon weekend at the start of the fall semester, schools from across the country come to MIT to work on problem statements given to us by SOCOM at Lincoln Labs, USASOC in Fort Bragg, and NSW. These problem statements encapsulate technical challenges faced by the special operations community. Over hackathon weekend, we worked on solutions to these problems and receive feedback on our preliminary solutions. Since last semester, the cadets participating in the hackathon took a trip down to Fort Bragg in January to present their progress to

USASOC. After our trip in January, cadets have incorporated the feedback they received in order to prepare for our closing event on Friday, April 28th at Lincoln Labs. Here, cadets will overview their entire year's worth of work, specifically highlighting the progress they've made this semester.

This year, the hackathon continued its incredible growth, with more ROTC programs than ever (and West Point) participating. We had nine challenge statements given to us by SOCOM and USASOC. For example, the "Casualty Status Tool" challenge, in which helmet camera footage and audio from casualty combat care is used to automatically create a TCCC card, has three MS1 cadets working with cadets from other universities on everything from AI model training to GUI design. Another project, "Contested Comms", explores how the IR spectrum can be used to communicate in environments where conventional communication methods have been denied. This project has four cadets from our program working on it. In total, over 20 cadets from our program participate in the Hackathon. Overall, the spring semester has been a productive one for the hackathon team, and we're looking forward to our closing event later this week.



The Military Strategy Initiative

CDT *Luis Fernando Esteva Sueiro*, MSIII



Since spring of 2020, the Military Strategy Initiative (MSI) has spent each semester exploring a big question that the Army is interested in answering. Typically, the team will browse the US Army War College's Key Strategic Issues List (KSIL) for a question to tackle. Then, we spend the semester researching, writing, and in the end presenting our findings to a relevant senior leader, oftentimes General Officers (GOs).

This semester, the MSI was interested in attacking the question "Assess the challenge posed by transnational and transregional threat networks in Mexico and the appropriate Army response" on page 16 of the KSIL. We asked "How can the Army best cooperate with foreign militaries and law enforcement agencies to mitigate threats posed by transnational and local organized crime in order to stabilize affected countries in Central America, the Caribbean, and Mexico"

This problem statement led to an incredibly creative list of recommendations from cadets, with ideas taking inspiration from Army initiatives with other partner countries around the world and even the British Gurkha program in cooperation with Nepal. Our cadets demonstrated a strong ability to think outside of the box in order to come up with solutions feasible for the Army to implement.

At the end of the semester, the MSI team had the opportunity to present our findings to MG Shawn R. Satterfield, Commander Theater Special Operations Command North. MG Satterfield provided instructive feedback and was appreciative of the team's efforts.

The entire team did an outstanding job. However, I would like to particularly recognize CDT Etai Clyde for leading the team this semester as he has transitioned into his role as the new captain of the MSI team. I look forward to seeing the incredible projects that MSI produces next year and for many years to come, keeping PRB cadets at the forefront of the Army's efforts to tackle the challenges of the future.



George Marshall Conference

CDT Madeline Gavitt, MSIV

Students from all across the nation attend the George C. Marshall conference every winter in February. This year I received the opportunity to be one of the lucky cadets to experience this unique opportunity. At the conference, we discussed a series of important issues that affect the Army today, such as multi-domain operations, the modernization of warfare, and Army recruitment reform. The conference started with a series of interesting lectures led by renowned military leaders who each discussed these issues and contextualized them using their own unique military experiences. During the second day of the conference, we received the opportunity to participate in small-group discussions with senior ranking officers and non-commissioned officers. Through these discussions, we were able to learn about current threats that the U.S. faces across the world and the ways that the U.S. military can best evolve to meet these threats. This conference was a great opportunity to explore new topics that we don't often get to discuss within ROTC, learning from experienced military leaders. What's more, it was incredibly rewarding to meet cadets from programs across the nation with all kinds of different experiences and plans for their futures. It was rewarding to be able to learn not only from the speakers and teachers assigned to lead the conference, but also from each and every one of my fellow cadets and peers. This conference exposed me to unique ideas and has sparked interest within me to keep exploring strategic military issues. As a result, I was very grateful for the opportunity to participate in the George C. Marshall Conference.

CDT Madeline Gavitt

CFTX – Training Experience



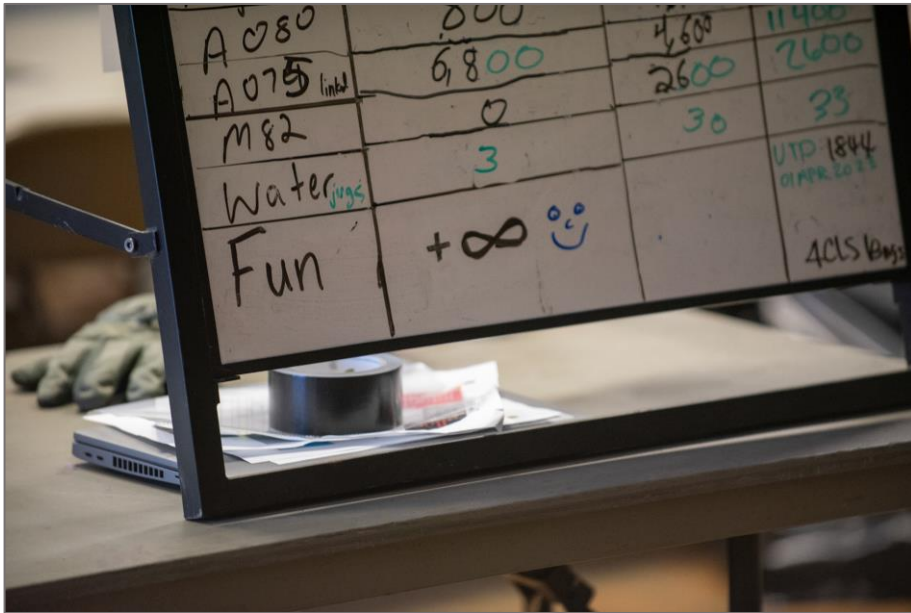
This semester the Paul Revere Battalion had the opportunity to conduct a Combined Field Training Exercise (CFTX) with the Charles River Battalion from Boston University and the Liberty Battalion from Northeastern University. This CFTX was a four-day long exercise where cadets got valuable hands-on experience conducting platoon-sized missions with radios, M240b's, and M249s, in an environment that is meant to challenge cadets physically and mentally in preparation for Cadet Summer Training (CST). This year's experience was a wet one, as the rain poured on the cadets nearly the entire weekend. Despite the elements, cadets persevered and were in high spirits throughout. By the end of the weekend, each platoon was functioning seamlessly and at a high level. MSIII's who will be attending CST this summer are confident and well prepared in order to excel at camp because of this valuable training experience. No Fear!

Pictures from the Semester











MIT Army ROTC
The Paul Revere Battalion

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