



The Revere Recorder

“ROTC – the best leader and management development program in the world”!

Volume XII, Issue II Reporting for America’s Oldest ROTC Unit Spring/Summer 2011

The Paul Revere Battalion Commissions LTC ‘Doc’ Yaffe

By CDT Bryce East, MSIV

On April 7, 2011 the Paul Revere Battalion had the privilege of commissioning Michael Yaffe into the United States Army at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. This occasion was the conclusion three years of hard work and hurdles. All Cadre members were in attendance, including some retired members. SFC Adam Cook had the honor of rendering LTC Yaffe his first salute.



LTC Hall administers the oath of office to LTC Yaffe.

For the past three years LTC Yaffe has served as the battalion surgeon in the Paul Revere Battalion. In addition to attending to any injuries sustained during training he has enjoyed serving as

OPFOR during tactical training exercises as well as participating in the Field Leaders Reaction Course (FLRC). LTC Yaffe, commonly referred to as ‘Doc’ by cadets, was asked to some questions to highlight his experiences in the Paul Revere Battalion.

What did you do prior to joining the Paul Revere Battalion?

LTC Yaffe: Before I joined the Paul Revere Battalion, I was just a regular Associate Professor of Biology and Biological Engineering at MIT like everyone else. I am also a fully trained Trauma/Critical Care surgeon, and I do a small amount of clinical practice at Harvard Medical School. The research my lab does is partly focused on injury and inflammation, and partly on cancer treatment.



SFC Cook and LTC Yaffe following the first salute.

Why did you decide to join ROTC and receive a direct commission into the Army?

LTC Yaffe: *Well, I guess the question really is how to get involved with ROTC in the first place. I teach 7.05, a large undergraduate biochemistry course here at MIT. Four or five years ago one of my students approached me and told me that he needed to take the final exam early because he was an NROTC cadet with Marine option, and needed to leave MIT early to attend the required Marine Corps summer training evaluation. I was very impressed with the student, and we began to chat a little more about his career plans in the Marines. He knew that I was also a trauma surgeon in addition to being his biochemistry professor he began to ask me if I would teach him a little bit about what to do, medically, if his platoon got hit by an IED in Iraq, where he was almost certainly going. As I began to research the types of injuries that soldiers and Marines were experiencing there, it became clear that there was a real shortage of trauma surgeons on the ground. In fact many of the first responders in Combat Surgical Hospitals in that theatre are family practice physicians or people with only one year of training after medical school. While these people may be very good, they don't have the training that goes along with being a full-fledged general surgeon or a trauma surgeon. So I thought there was a real need for trained surgeons in the military.*



LTC Hall pins the rank of LTC onto 'Doc' Yaffe's ACUs

LTC Yaffe also contributed the initial positive experiences such as Combat Water Survival Training and PT as strong motivations for becoming more heavily involved.

What's next for LTC 'Doc' Yaffe?

LTC Yaffe: *I have an IMA slot in the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corps, and I've been assigned to the United States Army Institute for Surgical Research in San Antonio – part of Brooke Army medical Center. I will continue in my day job as a professor at MIT/surgeon at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and devote about 30 days per year, in one form or another, to serving the Army as a trauma surgeon and medical scientist. I expected at some point that I will be deployed and I'm really looking forward to being able to directly contribute to the well-being of our soldiers.*

Do you have any final words of advice to current and future cadets?

LTC Yaffe: *Do your best. Strive to be the best you can. Never quit. Don't take 'No' for an answer. Trying implement all the things they teach us in the four years of coursework. The material really is practical - it's not just theoretical -*

and you can use it in your day-to-day life all the time. Develop a sense of camaraderie with your colleagues. Some of the relationships I've developed through ROTC are among the strongest ones that I've ever had. ROTC – particularly the 4th year - reminds me a lot of my surgical training, during which we were overworked, completely exhausted, and pushed to the maximum in what we thought we could handle. What emerged from this was a true sense of personal accomplishment, a can-do attitude, and the knowledge that you really can do much more than you think you can. I found ROTC to be a fantastic experience and I would encourage everyone who is the least bit interested in it to give it a try.

LTC Yaffe has been an invaluable resource for the Paul Revere Battalion. His leadership and expertise will be missed. However, his skills and knowledge are needed elsewhere in our Army. Our Soldiers are in good hands with LTC ‘Doc’ Yaffe on call. As he transitions into the next phase of his service we wish him the very best of luck.

Perspectives on the Spring JFTX

By CDT Sean Rutan-Heningham, MSIII

As most classes have final exams and culminating projects, ROTC provides a more realistic practical assessment. Specifically, each semester we have field training exercises to apply educational doctrine to actual training activities as both a didactic experience and an evaluation of our merit as future army leaders. This spring, for our FTX (Field Training Exercise), the Paul

Revere Battalion trained with three other battalions (Boston University, North Eastern, and Providence College) at Camp Edwards on the Cape. Although only one weekend was spent at Camp Edwards, the experience as a whole could not be emulated by standard class time, and was invaluable as a training tool. Being a junior, the leadership experience provided is irreplaceable as someone who is going to commission and lead soldiers in the United States Army.

The actual training was divided into three general phases. The first phase involved what is referred to as TTB (Tactical Training Base) operations. A Tactical Training Base is a military construct established to build combat-ready units by simulating military environments encountered during missions overseas. It contained various tents surrounded by barb wire laced barriers, vehicle entry control points, and guard towers. Whenever we were not out training we were at the TTB in our squads, either managing equipment, getting chow, developing squad operating procedures, or receiving additional instruction on various relevant topics. Personally I was a platoon leader during TTB operations, and was in charge of the logistical planning relevant to members of the platoon having the proper equipment and knowledge to successfully complete their training. This leadership position was both educational and functional as it assisted in accomplishing the overall training mission.

The second phase involved STX (Squad Training Exercise) lanes. During STX lanes, juniors were assigned squad leadership roles, leading other cadets through simulated training exercises generally involving attacking or

ambushing an enemy or reconnoitering specified locations. We did a total of six two hours lanes, switching roles, carrying equipment, using blank loaded M16s, and replicating squad combat operations. We were graded on how well we performed, which due to the cumulative nature of STX lanes, provided an accurate evaluation on how well we have mastered the material of our military science classes and our ability to lead people in combat related situations. After STX lanes we moved back to the TTB to conduct additional training and take care of personnel sustainment. The third phase involved two patrol lanes, which were essentially STX lanes with more personnel and more objectives. Like STX lanes, juniors were assigned various leadership positions and other cadets fulfilled the other patrol positions, with others acting as OPFOR (Oppositional Forces) to provide for the full simulated experience. When patrolling was over we received multiple briefs, cleaned weapons, and departed TTB Kelley. Overall, it was an extremely helpful experience, and brought every cadet one step closer to becoming a fully functional leader in the United States Army.

2011 Joint Service Award Ceremony

By Cadet Nicole Unis

The MIT Reserve Officers' Training Corps hosted its annual Joint Service Awards Ceremony Friday, 15 APR 2011 at the Boston Coast Guard Station.

Each year, cadets and midshipmen from the Army, Navy and Air Force are honored for their accomplishments by various local and national organizations following the Joint Service Pass in Review.



CDT O'Brien receiving an award

After a reception, which facilitates interaction between cadets, midshipmen, cadre and friends and family from the respective services, 55 total awards were presented, some to multiple recipients. The MIT Army ROTC Paul Revere Battalion's cadets received a total of 66 awards, including some from the national level.



SFC Cook presents an award to CDT Reed.

This event is looked forward to every year and cadets enjoy celebrating both the end of the semester and the achievements of the battalion. Multiple award recipient Cadet Victoria Migdal said of the afternoon, “it’s great to have events where all of the services come together and it’s important to recognize the accomplishments of our peers.”

Army Cadet awards recipients included:

Distinguished Military Graduates and Charles C. Smith Award: CDTs Luis Alvarez, Charles Finn, Christopher Higgins, Brandon Lew, Peter McKee, and Tomo Takai.

Professor of Military Science Honor Graduate Award: CDT Christopher Higgins.

Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Education Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship: CDT Janice O’Brien

Society of American Military Engineer Award – National Level: CDT Janice O’Brien

A Message from the Cadet Battalion Commander
By CDT Christopher Higgins, MSIV

Congratulations on a job well done, Paul Revere! As the semester draws to a close and we all get ready to move on to summer training and, for our seniors, life in the big Army, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your hard work and dedication. We had a busy semester. We started off with a snowy new Cadet orientation and a rather hot indoor APFT. We then executed a series of leadership labs designed to prepare the Battalion to deploy to Atropia and take out the SAPA. Following the crawl-walk-run approach, we started with individual movement techniques and then worked our way up to squad tactics before heading off to Camp Edwards for the JFTX. We then closed out the year with the pass-in-review and awards ceremony in April. We accomplished all this training while simultaneously implementing a completely new PT program—no small feat.



LTC Hall presents an award to CDT Higgins.

I cannot even begin to say how proud I am of our Battalion's performance. You all performed extraordinarily well, and I am deeply grateful for that. My fellow MS IVs fought against the temptations of senioritis and put long hours into planning and leading our training events. Our MS IIIs did an outstanding job in mastering the new PT regimen and teaching it to the rest of the Battalion. Our Cadet NCOs truly led the way this semester again and again. I am confident the Battalion will continue to excel in the years ahead as these Cadets assume positions of greater responsibility. Our MS Is and IIs did outstanding work as well. Army ROTC can be very daunting when you are new to it, but all of our younger Cadets performed admirably. You all are quick learners and good followers. That will serve you well in the years ahead.

I want to leave you with a couple pieces of advice. First, learn to listen like your life depends on it—because it does. Our Cadre members have so much to teach us, but they can only teach us if we listen. Hang on their every word. Listen to your fellow Cadets as well. We have the privilege of training with a wide range of young men and women with very different backgrounds, skills and talents. Everyone brings something to the Battalion, and it is very important to learn from one another. Be sure to listen to your non-ROTC schoolmates and professors as well. One of the great strengths of the ROTC program is the opportunity to hear a wide range of opinions on the issues of the day. Go to every speaker event on campus that you can. Meet as many veterans and public servants as you can. Make a broad range of friends and build a network that extends beyond your ROTC buddies. At

a time in our Nation's history when civil-military cooperation is more important than ever, it is critical that future Army leaders begin cultivating a wide range of relationships early in their careers.



CDT Higgins leads the Paul Revere Battalion during the Pass in Review.

Finally, don't lose heart. We are too young for that. We all know that Army life is not always fun. It involves lots of early mornings, late nights, cold and muddy patrol bases, hot and sweaty road marches—the list goes on. Sometimes things will not go your way. You will bomb a test, get a bad blue card, encounter the wrath of an angry NCO. All that stuff is inevitable, and it is up to each of us to find the strength to drive on and keep moving towards that goal we all share as Cadets: a bar of gold on Army green. Although the costs are high, the reward is higher. Very few Americans are entrusted with the responsibility to lead their countrymen in the Nation's defense. If you can find the strength to drive on through the rough days and nights that lie ahead, that tremendous honor will one day be yours.

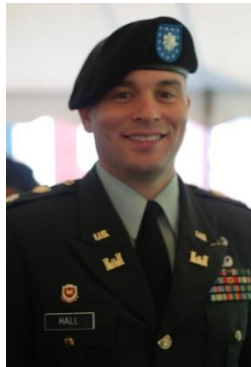
It has been a privilege to serve with all of you these past few years. I am so immensely proud of my fellow MS IVs for a job well done, and I am

deeply grateful for all the MS Is, IIs, and IIIs, whose hard work and dedication make this Battalion what it is. Best of luck in the years ahead. I look forward to serving with you in our Army.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to alumni and Soldiers currently serving in our armed forces around the world.

Words from our Commander

LTC Timothy Hall



Friends of the Paul Revere Battalion, we have just concluded the Spring 2011 semester (and we're almost finished with summer). The battalion is doing well and we are a stronger battalion today than last year. We commissioned 17 officers this year (MIT-4, Gordon-6, Tufts-3, Salem State-2, Harvard-2), the most for the battalion since 1992.

First, I would like to report on the status of the battalion. The battalion

is starting the Fall 2011 semester with almost 80 Cadets, a slight dip from where we were last year. We estimate based on past trends that our enrollment will dip through the fall to about 70-75 Cadets. This is normal and not unexpected. What is different this year is the number of Cadets who will be contracted and on scholarship. Out of about 22 freshmen, we will have only 1 Cadet who will be on scholarship. Based on the fiscal situation, we took a tremendous reduction in available scholarships. We continue to look at this with concern and are doing all we can to get Cadets scholarships from Cadet Command. Campus based scholarships are limited and we currently have no allocations to award scholarships on campus. Normally the battalion has 80% of its Cadets contracted either as scholarship or non-scholarship Cadets. This year, we will be about 60% contracted. The good news is that despite the lack of scholarships, the battalion continues to attract talented young men and women into the program who we believe are motivated to serve, not simply because they have to earn their scholarship. I believe we are attracting the right people to the program.

We had a down year in performance in summer training this year, (LDAC or Advanced Camp as some of you know it). We performed above average in attaining "excellence" ratings, and higher than average in "needs improvement" ratings. This was mostly due to failures in land navigation. We believe this is mostly due to lack of confidence as the previous year we were one of the top units in land navigation. We believe we are sound on the fundamentals and will make slight

changes to training methods to improve performance.

In the news, there has also been a lot of discussion about the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”. The Navy and Harvard penned an agreement in March 2011 to open an ROTC office at Harvard. As of penning this article, the Army is continuing the affiliation it has had since the 1970s. It is important to note that our battalion does not have any direct impact on whether there will or will not be an office at Harvard; that authority is retained at US Army Cadet Command. We are responsible for the recruiting, retention, development, and training of our Cadets to be commissioned officers in the US Army. We can continue to execute our mission in the current relationship and will do so until given different instructions. To illustrate this, I will share one fact. From 1989 to 2011, Harvard has commissioned 2 more officers than MIT (88 for Harvard versus 86 for MIT). We value all members of our consortium and are commissioning officers from all colleges and universities in the next several years.

I would like to take a moment to bid farewell to one of our Cadre, Mr. Michael Wood. For the last year, he served as our supply technician. He made tremendous strides to fix a supply room that his predecessor left in an unacceptable state. Mr. Wood will continue to serve Cadets, but at Clemson University. We wish him well. We have a replacement for Mr. Wood, Ms. Iris Gonzalez. She will be on board here in late September 2011.

Please enjoy this issue of the Revere Recorder. You will notice we have done some rebranding on our battalion logo. One of our Cadets, Cadet Christian Reed of MIT, designed the

new logo to capture the spirit of the Paul Revere Battalion as one organization. We received a lot of positive feedback on these small changes. You will see from the articles, we have a lot of things going on in the battalion. We also have our battalion Facebook page up and running. We will be posting pictures and telling everyone what is going on in the battalion. Please check it out.

<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/MIT-Army-ROTC-Paul-Revere-Battalion/140465519358077>

No Fear! Paul Revere!

Calling all Alumni . . . do you have a story to share? Contact Lisa Morin at ljmorin@mit.edu with your story and/or pictures.

It's Commissioning Time ...



2LTs Mangan and LaVallee at Salem State University on 20 May, 2011.



2LTs Berkowitz, East, Duncan, Broughton, Alvarez and Bailey at Gordon College on 20 May, 2011.



2LTs Finn, O'Loughlin and Takaki of the Army ROTC, and 2LT Darlington of the Air Force ROTC at Tufts University on 21 May, 2011.



2LTs Higgins, Scherer and CDT Schoenen of the Army ROTC and ENS Reach of the Navy ROTC at Harvard University on 25 May, 2011.



2LTs Lopez, Lew, Doroski and McKee, along with Air Force and Navy Commissionees at MIT on 3 June, 2011.

Remember when ...



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or scan the following image to your smartphone:



See you in Fall 2011 – Winter 2012!