New Cadet Orientation
by CDT Adam Cortese

New Cadet Orientation was a well-organized event. From the moment I showed up there was no confusion about what I was supposed to be doing. Everywhere I went I had either a squad or team leader with me, directing me where to go. As a result things seemed to run smoothly and there wasn’t any time wasted trying to figure out where to go or what to do.

Because of an afternoon class I had to arrive late, but as soon as I entered the building the cadet leadership was on top of things and hurried me downstairs to get fitted for my Class A’s. As soon as I was done there I was escorted over to the seamstress to make any necessary adjustments and then immediately sent back to get any gear I needed to be issued. I was then sent upstairs to fill out paperwork with Mr. Michaud. When I was done with that we ate and had the opportunity to meet the cadet leadership and some of the other cadets we will be training with. It was good to be able to put a face with the names of our platoon, squad, and team leaders.

Next we began practicing drill and ceremony. To be honest this part seemed kind of long and boring to me, since I’ve already completed basic training, but I understood how useful and necessary it was for the cadets who are brand new to the military. The cadet leadership did a good job explaining the facing movements and different positions, providing demonstrations and explaining what they were doing. There was enough cadet leadership there to watch us and make sure everyone was doing it right. After that we went out on to the parking lot to practice marching and this was the only time things seemed to breakdown a little bit. It was difficult to hear some of the commands and explanations so I can only imagine how difficult it must have been for those brand new to marching. Also, some of the explanations could have been a little more thorough at the beginning because as time went on things like which foot the command is called on were explained and that would have been useful to know at the start. Finally we
went inside to meet the cadre and receive a brief from Lt. Col. Hall before being dismissed.

Next we moved to the classrooms for a class on squad attack. CDT DiGiovanna taught the class I was in. She went through slides and explained everything from the moment we leave the AA to the time we finish actions on the objective. CDT Hoffman also gave a very good example of how to search an EPW by demonstrating violence of action in searching myself. After the class was over we moved to the field to put our new learned tactics to action.

The first phase was setting up an ORP. An ORP is an objective rally point. It’s where the squad leader halt his squad close within 400 meters of the objective and prepare for the final attack. In setting up the ORP, I signaled to my team leaders that we reached our position. It was then their jobs to get their teams into 360 security. Once 360 security was set up, we moved onto the next phase of the attack.

The next phase was the leaders recon and the actual attack. I took my support team leader, and two additional cadets with me to go recon the objective. Once upon it, we saw that we would best be served having the assault element

Our first lead lab of the semester was on dealing with squad attack. With the JFTX coming up, most all our lead labs are heavy on tactics. For the squad attack we were working on three main elements of the attack.

We started the lab off with a few guest speakers from the Engineer Corps. One was a former cadet from the Paul Revere Battalion who was now a Captain in the Engineer Corps. Another was a representative from the US Army Corps of Engineers. They provided us with their knowledge and experience of being an officer in the Engineer Corps.

Squad Tactics Squad Attack
Lead Lab
by CDT Ryan Leahy
flank right around the cover. We returned to our ORP and disseminated the information to the squad. At this point, we formed up and moved out of the ORP toward our release point. At the release point, the support element got on line with the objective, a bunker with one, armed, enemy. I led the assault element right setting them up on line with the objective from the flank. On my signal, the support element opened fire, followed by us, assaulting through the objective. The result was one dead enemy. After the attack began our last phase.

After each team hit their limit of advance (LOA), we set up 360 security and began actions on objective. The EPW team may a quick clearing sweep through the objective to make sure no enemies were a threat. Next, our aid and litter team came up and assessed a casualty of ours. I called in a 9 line MEDEVAC and got the downed cadet to safety. Finally, our demo team came in and destroyed the enemies remaining weapons. After “fire in the hole 3”, we had all cleared out of the objective and were back on our way to the ORP.

This lead lab gave us our first look into the tactics we will be using in STX lanes at the JFTX as well as at LDAC for the MS III’s this summer. It was a good learning and teaching experience for all cadets involved.

On February 24, Paul Revere Battalion cadets practiced platoon level tactics during one of their Friday Lead Labs. The night was designed to help prepare the cadets that would soon be going to Fort Lewis in Washington for LDAC (Leadership Development and Assessment Course). The night began with a classroom lesson on the theory and execution behind platoon missions. Cadets were taught what sort of formations should be used for movement and the structural differences between a platoon and a squad. Next, the lesson covered the specific details of the lanes that the cadets would later be facing. Two lanes were set up that were designed to simulate coming across an IED and attacking an entrenched enemy. Cadets were taught the proper procedure when dealing with UXO's (Unexploded Ordnance) and how to best to approach an enemy that has had a chance to establish themselves in a defensive position. Once the classroom lesson was over, it was time for the cadets to take over and show what they had managed to absorb.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to alumni and Soldiers currently serving in our armed forces around the world.
The cadets represented themselves well, and although communication broke down at times, the cadets showed that they were improving as leaders and as followers. In the IED lane, the platoon ran across and IED almost immediately and, depending on their level of awareness, either called in the situation to their superiors, or were forced to call for a MEDEVAC to transport their “casualty” towards the rear. In the other lane, one cadet acted as an OPFOR (Opposition Force) with a machine gun that the platoon force was supposed to flank and destroy. The destruction of the machine gunner was generally successful but some cadets ran into problems attempting to execute their actions on the objective within the time constraints. Overall, the lead lab was an important step in the education of the cadets as many valuable lessons were learned about what areas required the most attention and improvement. Despite the rainy weather and the vast quantities of goose excrement on the field, cadets made valuable use of their allotted time and left MIT wet, but a little more knowledgeable about what would be required of them in the future.

Joint Service Military Ball
by CDT Joel Perkins

On Friday, 02 MAR 12, at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge Hotel ballroom, the Paul Revere Battalion took part in MIT ROTC Joint-Service Military Ball. The primary purpose of the event is to develop camaraderie among the different ROTC branches (Army, Navy, and Air Force). One of the ways in which this goal is achieved is the Social Hour, which commenced the evening’s activities. It was a great opportunity to mingle and converse with Cadets, Midshipmen, and Cadre of the other branches that we rarely see. It was also a time to continue to bond with the Cadets that we see on a weekly basis.

Following the Social Hour came the Opening Ceremonies, which included: the posting of the Colors, the invocation, various toasts, the POW/MIA Ceremony, and the introduction of the Head Table. Once the Opening Ceremonies were concluded, we were free to dine and converse with the members seated at our tables. As the meal was coming to an end, Colonel Charles DeBellevue of the U.S. Air Force, the guest speaker for the evening, gave us his engrossing and inspirational speech. During the speech, he relayed to us some of events he faced over his illustrious career and talked about leadership in action. Although his speech was not specific to the Army, we were all able to reap benefits from following his excellent example of leadership and courage.

After the Closing Ceremonies, Lieutenant Colonel Hall led the Cadets of the Paul Revere Battalion in a triumphant singing of the Army song, which easily bested the Air Force,
Marine, and Navy’s renditions of their branch’s respective songs. At this point, the formal portion of the evening concluded and informal dance began in full vigor. All in all, it was an enjoyable evening for everyone involved.

**Paul Revere Staff Ride**

By: CDT Janice O’Brien

Every year the senior class has what is called the “staff ride” before we commission. But this is actually a misnomer, it’s more of a staff “in depth study with associated ruck march.” For our staff ride, we first read the book “Paul Revere’s Ride” by David Hackett Fischer, which is about the events surrounding the battles of Lexington and Concord, the first battles of the Revolutionary War. This is very fitting, since we are indeed the Paul Revere Battalion. Upon completion of the book, each of us made a presentation about some aspect of the battles: topics included the weaponry, the terrain considerations, and the tactics employed at the battles as well as propaganda (on both sides) surrounding the battles. We presented our researched topics to each other and to LTC Hall, who gave insight into how the topics all fit together. By the time the last person gave their presentation, we felt like subject matter experts.

Bright and early the next morning we all arrived, ready to begin the practical portion of the staff ride. We drove along Massachusetts Ave, the same road the redcoats used to march to Lexington. Once at the Lexington Green, we hopped out to study the history events that had occurred centuries ago that set the Revolutionary War on its course. The Lexington militia had gathered on the green, prepared to defend their homes from the redcoats if necessary. The redcoats were threatened by the colonial display and marched onto the green to meet the militia. What struck me most while standing on the green was exactly how close the two lines of men were. I had always known on an academic level that the weapons they used were not exactly long range, and that the two lines had to be within a hundred meters of each other. However, standing there on the green where the redcoat line had been, staring at the place where the militia had set up, I understood exactly how close they had to be, and I appreciated the discipline it took to stand in line while volleys of shots were fired. It is no small wonder that whoever fired first (for we still don’t know today who took the first shot on the Lexington green) didn’t hold their fire until ordered to shoot.

After we reviewed the rest of the battle at Lexington, we drove to Concord, where the “ride” of the staff ride ended. We all pulled out our ruck sacks and started marching. We began our journey at the Old North Bridge, where we studied the lay of the land, and appreciated how the battle was fought there. But for the redcoats, this was only
the beginning of their ordeal. After their defeat at Concord, they still had to march all the way back to the harbor, a distance of over 20 miles (that they had already marched on the way out), and on their whole march back they would be attacked by the militia who had rallied after the battles. It was truly a gauntlet.

Since our staff ride took place on the Saturday before Patriot’s Day, we got to experience a real treat: a reenactment of the battle along the road at Concord. It was amazing to watch the reenactment to really help visualize the tactics employed during the battles. It was also entertaining to interact with some of the actors (not during the reenactment itself, of course). The juxtaposition of modern and revolutionary soldiers did not go unnoticed by the crowd. After the reenactment we continued our march along the battle road, stopping at points to discuss the events that had unfolded at the various bends in the road. We marched all the way back to the Lexington Green, the whole march totaling several hours with all the stops for discussion. By the time we arrived, some were suffering from blisters or rolled ankles: and we had only marched a quarter of the way that the British troops had marched. I think what we gained was a true appreciation for the “other” side of the battles: we learned how arduous the journey was for the lowly British foot soldier, who didn’t even know the battle plan (their generals, hoping for operational security had not told them who or where they were going to fight, or even if they were to fight at all). For them, it must have been terrifying. And we learned that the true difficulty of the battles was in the march back, not in the battles that took place at Lexington or Concord.

We then discussed the implications of what we learned over some bar-b-queued burgers and hotdogs. We talked about how the lessons from the first battles of the Revolution could be applied to the wars we are fighting today, and the lessons are strikingly applicable and thought-provoking.

All in all, the senior staff ride was a truly enriching experience. I am grateful that we attend colleges where we could study these first battles that shaped our nation’s independence, and I gained a new appreciation for aspects of the battles that I would never have understood just studying them from books. The boots-to-ground learning was what really made the staff ride come alive. For a day, we immersed ourselves in history and learned many lessons that we can employ in our future careers.

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

On the weekend of 20-22 April 2012, the MIT Army ROTC battalion joined 3 other battalions for a JFTX (joint field training exercise) at Camp Edwards, MA. The intent of the exercise was to get the cadets exposure to a field environment, as well as getting the MSIII cadets prepared for the Leader Development Assessment Course (LDAC). The MSIV cadets were the ones running the training exercise, with various cadre from the four battalions involved as well.

Everyone arrived at Tactical Training Base Kelly on Friday evening. The MSIII cadets were immediately placed into leadership roles ranging from squad leader through company commander. MSI and II cadets were assigned to the various squads prior to Friday. All cadets received an M16A2 series rifle, which they were required to have on them at all times during the weekend. For most of the cadets, this was their first exposure to the weapon. For the MSIII’s, the leadership roles simulated what they would experience in garrison at Ft. Lewis for LDAC. Friday night concluded with the squads establishing SOP’s (Standing Operating Procedures) amongst the others they would be leading in the following day’s lanes. Then was lights out, in which all cadets went back to their tents where they would sleep for the next 2 nights.

Saturday was filled with squad STX (situational training exercise) lanes, in which the MSIII cadets were evaluated on leading their squads through 1 of 6 lanes (some MSIII’s were evaluated twice). The STX lanes here simulated the STX lanes that the MSIII cadets will be evaluated on at LDAC. The MSIV cadets acted as either a grader, or the OPFOR (opposing force) for the lanes. The squad leaders (MSIII’s) were evaluated on issuing an OPORD (operation order), and executing a mission. They led their squad on an ambush, an attack, or a recon mission.

On Saturday night all cadets were introduced to Base Security, either by securing the ECP (entry control point), manning the guard towers, conducting foot patrols, or acting as QRF (quick reaction force). There were two rotations of an hour each, in which all cadets were able to participate. Toward the end of the night, the OPFOR conducted an all-out simulated attack on the base, in which everyone got involved in trying to force them back out (by firing blank rounds with their M16’s).

Sunday was patrol lanes for the MSIII’s, in which they were once again evaluated on their ability to lead a platoon-sized element on a mission. The patrols consisted of an ambush and a “meeting” with a village leader. The difference between the squad STX missions and the patrolling missions is that patrols consist of 2 (or more) squads, making the element much larger and including more leadership roles.
The MSI’s and II’s participated in either an obstacle course or tower rappelling.

After the patrolling missions were completed, all cadets conducted weapons cleaning. MSI’s and II’s received a block of instruction on the disassembly and re-assembly of the M16, and how to properly maintain it using a weapons cleaning kit and CLP (cleaner lubricant and preservative). After turning in the weapons and cleaning out the tents, all battalions boarded their busses to return to their schools. After asking many cadets, the reaction to the JFTX was positive, in which everyone seemed to have gotten a lot of good training, learning numerous things along the way.

A Message from the Cadet Battalion Commander
by Cadet Victoria Migdal

Paul Revere, it appears that yet another semester flown by and summer is right around the corner. I wish to thank you all for the hard work you have put in and congratulate you on the completion of another school year and a year of great ROTC training. This semester was no typical semester as our battalion faced a host of new challenges.

We added more leadership labs to our schedule than ever before, took point in planning the JFTX, and managed to do all of this while facing cadre staff shortages. Even with all of these challenges, we worked together as a team and rose to the occasion.

We hit the ground running this semester as we began our training with four weeks straight of leadership labs from February into March. Included in this training were an additional squad tactics lab and a new patrolling leadership lab. Though all this training certainly kept us busy (and ate up part of our Friday nights), we saw the fruits of our labor when it came time for the JFTX. The time and effort that the MSIV class put into the planning and execution of these labs and the enthusiasm that the MS I-III classes showed helped to make our battalion the most prepared it has ever been for the JFTX.

This semester proved that our battalion is capable of achieving great things. I hope that we maintain this momentum going into the next year and face the new challenges head-on. It is time for our MS I-III (now II-IV) cadets to step-up and be leaders for the battalion. With a complete new set of cadre coming in, it is up to you to carry on the drive and spirit of the Paul Revere Battalion. One piece of advice I can give you is do not be afraid to fail and do not be discouraged by failure. It is inevitable that something will not go as planned, but it is through these failures that you have the most to learn. So long as you put in your best effort, you can be proud of the work that you do. Remember that the more you put into something, the more you get out of it.
Never forget that the Army is a team sport. One of the greatest gifts that ROTC has given me is the opportunity to interact with a diverse and amazing group of cadets. Just within our battalion, we have cadets with a wide range of backgrounds, schools, interests, and goals. Each cadet has something to offer and I have learned a lot from everyone. Going forth, I hope you all remember that in order for an organization to run effectively everyone must do their part and you must all work together. This not only makes things work better, but it also makes things a lot more enjoyable.

It has been a privilege to serve as your c/BC this semester. I am especially grateful to my fellow MSIVs. Congratulations for a job well done and your upcoming commissionings. Lastly, I would like to thank all of the cadre for the extra effort that they put in this year. Even as we had to deal we lost members and had to deal with a shrinking Army, the cadre worked overtime to ensure that we still ran the best possible training. I wish you all, cadets and cadre, the best of luck in your future endeavors. No Fear, Paul Revere!

Dear Friends of the Paul Revere Battalion,

Welcome to the Spring 2012 edition of the Revere Recorder. We just finished a tremendous Spring Semester. It has been very busy with a lot of training crammed into small windows in February and April (Spring Break was spread over about 3 weeks in March for all of our schools). Back in the fall, I updated you on our tightening scholarship budget. While not a lot has changed on that front, we are continuing to attract and maintain a good number of Cadets and are on track to meet our production goals for the future years. I will update you on this in my note to you and talk about the future for the Battalion.

Despite the limited resources, the battalion continues to award scholarships and find persons who are interested in serving first, and then considering financial benefits. This tells me a tremendous amount about the people who are in our unit. Many alumni will state up front, the reason they got into ROTC was a way to pay for college.
While there are still a number who pay attention to this practical matter, we are seeing many people who are foregoing the scholarship, or even consideration of a scholarship, but who are still fully involved, and contracting members of our unit. This is remarkable that we have so many people who are interested in service. We have good people who are pursuing commission in the Army and I am truly impressed by them. They will serve our nation proudly.

We are on track to meet or exceed our mission for the next several years. For our graduating class of 2012, we are poised to commission about 18, exceeding our overall mission. For our rising seniors, class of 2013, we have 16 Cadets and are poised to meet or exceed our mission, and to meet our nurse mission for the first time. For the class of 2014, we are poised to achieve our contract mission, which puts us on the glide path to meet our mission in 2014; we will send 5 Cadets to the Leaders Training Course at Fort Knox this summer. Last, for the Class of 2015, we have 3 Cadets already contracted and 6 additional Cadets whose scholarships start in fall 2012. We also have a number of prospects who hope to earn scholarships next year. So, despite some challenges, our prospects for production to meet or exceed our mission are very good for this year and the next three years.

In this edition of the Revere Recorder, you will see a sampling of the events we did this semester. The Cadets have worked hard to put this together this semester so we can get this out to you prior to summer break. We are continuing to stress the Cadets with a lot of leadership labs to develop their abilities to not only lead each other, but also to plan, prepare for, and conduct training events. This model has seen a great deal of leader development, particularly for our senior class. We believe they are ready to step out and lead platoons immediately.

This edition also marks my final edition of the Revere Recorder as PMS. We also have all of our other teaching Cadre who are departing this summer. Already gone are Mr. (former Captain) Wayne Morgan, our contract Senior Military Science Instructor, and Master Sergeant Robert Hinkle. Mr. Morgan departed for the FBI Academy and Master Sergeant Hinkle is enroute to Fort Benning, GA. Also departing this summer are Major Andy DeForest (Fort Leavenworth, KS) and Sergeant First Class Adam Cook (Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA). I will be heading off to Germany and the US Army Europe Headquarters. We have already welcomed Major Deidre Perrin, Master Sergeant Jerry McCartney and Mr. Michael Lutkevich to our unit. We will also welcome Lieutenant Colonel Adam Edwards, Captain Paul Lindberg, Sergeant First Class Donald Davis and Mr. Tom Fohr to the unit.

I want to thank all of you for your support over the last four years. Serving here has been tremendously rewarding and I leave here with a little bit of a heavy heart but also a degree of excitement as Lieutenant Colonel Edwards starts a new chapter for the Paul Revere Battalion. I will miss serving here. Most importantly, I will miss serving our Cadets. It has been truly inspirational for me to watch them grow and develop over the last several years. I can assure you that we are all in
good hands as this generation takes its place in leadership of our nation. Auf Wiedersehen!

**It’s Commissioning Time …**

2LT Moylan at Salem State University.

2LT’s Locke and Presto at Endicott College.

2LT Walbridge and Cadets Perkins and Rutan-Heningham at Gordon College.

2LTs Castillo, Falk, Hoffman and Milley, along with other Commissionees and MAJ GEN Mark Milley at Tufts University.

2LTs Migdal and Unis, CPT Stevens, LTC Hall, LTC Weibel, 2LT Peterson and ENS Roth at Harvard

2LTs Briscoe and O’Brien, along with other Commissionees at MIT.
Remember when . . .

Recognize anyone in the above photo? If you do, please let know at ljmorin@mit.edu. Thanks!

Don't forget to check us out on our Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/MIT-Army-ROTC-Paul-Revere-Battalion/140465519358077 or scan the following image to your smartphone:

See you in Fall 2012–Winter 2013!