

SCARLET KNIGHT BATTALION

ISSUE 2 VOLUME 3 JULY 2020

FROM THE CADET BATTALION COMMANDER

By C/LTC Chris Bruce

Serving as the Cadet Battalion Commander has been the most challenging and rewarding leadership experience during my time as a cadet. The Army ROTC program here at Rutgers has given me and my peers the skills and confidence to start our careers as Army officers and I have been honored to do my part to give back. Our cadets strive for excellence and have accomplished tremendous things throughout the year such as placing 6 out of 46 teams in the Ranger Challenge Competition. The Scarlet Knight Battalion started the spring semester strong, giving maximum effort in morning PT and Friday labs while also balancing academic, family, and extracurricular activities. Unfortunately, the global coronavirus pandemic shut down all university activities which includes ROTC events. Scarlet Knights have shown incredible resilience through this adversity and have continued to train hard physically and also mentally through virtual learning. I have no doubt that this program has strengthened greatly through our ability to adapt and overcome through difficult situations, which will be necessary throughout our careers as Army officers. Upon graduating from Rutgers, I will be commissioning into the Active Component as an Infantry Officer. I wouldn't trade my time as a Scarlet Knight for anything and I am looking forward to staying connected to the program and watching cadets continue to grow and succeed. Go RU!



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FROM THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

By LTC Javier A. Cortez

We are in uncharted waters and we have all had to take unprecedented steps as our personal and professional lives have been so dramatically affected by the outbreak. I am acutely aware of the important role that family, friends, and loved ones play in keeping our Cadets grounded. You are the reason why these Cadets have volunteered. You are the reason many of our cadets made the decision to join the ranks in defending our great nation against all its enemies at home and abroad. Cadets, you are our future beacons of freedom. One day, you will ensure our freedoms and protect our way of life.

I am so proud of our Cadets, during these unprecedented times. They have shown resiliency, tenacity, and our American GRIT. They have attended all virtual training events and have stayed connected in creative ways, making the bonds of our brotherhood and sisterhood closer now than ever. Our ROTC program, University, and Nation will return to normalcy and we will be more resilient, stronger and appreciative of the freedoms which we, at times, take for granted, and the simple things in life will have a more profound meaning. In times of adversity a person's true character becomes readily evident. Our Cadets have stepped-up and shown that they are men and women of high character, and are ready to lead our nation's sons and daughters against any future threats or challenges. Your compassion for one another speaks volumes about the values we hold so dear and the generosity that defines you as a person and future Army Officer.



Lastly, I want to thank our sponsors for their unwavering support in helping to develop and transform our cadets into the future leaders of our great nation. Your support is what keeps our lineage and traditions going. MSII's you are the future of our Battalion, MSII's it's been a pleasure to watch you grow and develop, MSIII's you all are ready to take over the Battalion Cadet leadership. MSIV's I am going to miss you all, but I'm confident that you are ready to take the baton, enter the force structure and emerge as the future leaders of our Great Nation.

FALL FTX

By C/MAJ Nicholas Incollingo

On September 27-29, 2019, the Scarlet Knight Battalion conducted their Fall Field Training Exercise (FTX). This FTX was unlike any other training the battalion has done in its recent years. The overall goal was to increase morale and raise campus awareness of the program. The first day started with team building exercises that allowed Cadets to meet each other and encourage communication between the different classes. The day ended with a catered barbeque that was provided by brigade and was served by the Cadre and MSIV's. The Second day began with a UH-60 Black Hawk ride from Busch Campus to Cook/Douglass Campus. Once all personnel were co-located, they participated in a star course that brought them to historic landmarks on the campuses. This gave the program visibility with the other students and surrounding community. The final day consisted of team sports between the groups to capitalize on the team building exercises that were conducted the first day. Although the training was different than previous years, it was a success and every objective was accomplished. It is not often that organizations are given a chance to perform key team building functions that have positive long-term effects.



RANGER CHALLENGE

By C/2LT Madelyn Gagliardi

In October, the Rutgers Ranger Challenge team, coached by CPT Mark Lewis and led by seniors CDT Christopher Bruce and CDT Madelyn Gagliardi, competed in a grueling three day competition meant to test cadets' physical and mental capabilities. Every school in 2nd Brigade sends a team to represent its battalion consisting of 12 members with a cadet from every military science level and at least two females. Upon arrival on Friday, cadets competed in a physical fitness event followed by a three mile ruck back to the campsite. Saturday consists of a round robin rotation of events which include land navigation, hand grenade assault course, an obstacle course, a medical evacuation lane, one rope bridge, and weapons assembly. The third day is a six mile ruck march to the parade field where the surprise event is conducted as a final smoke session. The 2019 Ranger Challenge Team took home sixth place out of forty-six teams on the East coast, winning streamers for one rope bridge, the physical fitness event, and the obstacle course.



First year competitor, Chloe Battista, led the team to victory for her determination during the ruck march. Second year competitors, Daniel Gewecke and Brett Lebow, served as the backbone of the team and helped the captains with mentoring the rest of the members who were new to the competition this year. The Rutgers Ranger Challenge team has a lot of talent in its ranks and the potential to take home the first place trophy in the 2020 competition. We wish our team the best of luck during the spring train up!

DINING - IN

By C/2LT Serene Farj

On December 5th, 2019 the Scarlet Knight Battalion held their annual Dining-in ceremony. This evening was in celebration of all of the hard work put in on behalf of Cadre and Cadets alike throughout the entirety of the fall semester. It served as the final gathering of all members of the Scarlet Knight Battalion prior to dismissal for Winter break. The evening consisted of a wonderful dinner enjoyed by all, a series of entertaining and comedic skits created by each of the MS classes, and the time honored tradition of a Grog ceremony (among many other customs seen in a typical Dining-in ceremony). Overall, the annual Dining-in ceremony was a success as it was safe, fun and pleasant for all!



SMA(RET) DANIEL A. DAILEY

SMA(RET) Dailey joined the Scarlet Knight Battalion in an online video discussion forum on 28 April 2020. He talked about his time in service and role as the most senior enlisted member of the US Army. The topics ranged from his deployments overseas to the different policies he implemented to better Soldier training and quality of life. He talked, in-depth, about the different challenges modern leaders in the Army must overcome together and the importance of genuine caring for you soldiers. After the discussion, he opened the floor to cadets to ask questions.

After his retirement, SMA(RET) Dailey joined the staff of the Association of the U.S. Army where he currently serves as vice president of Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier Programs.

The Scarlet Knight Battalion was honored to have him talk and answer so many questions, thanks again for joining us SMA(RET) Dailey!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: BG PAULA C. LODI

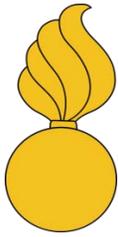
Brigadier General Paula Lodi is a native of Franklin, Massachusetts and commissioned into the Medical Service Corps as a Distinguished Military Graduate of Rutgers University ROTC program. Her first assignments were with Forward Support Battalions in the 3d Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany and 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas where she served in a variety of Medical and Multifunctional Logistics positions. During tours at Fort Hood she served as Deputy Chief, Managed Care and Hospital Executive Officer at Darnall Army Medical Center, III Corps Plans Officer, Executive Officer for 21st Combat Support Hospital, and Deputy Brigade Commander for 1st Medical Brigade. She served at the Pentagon as Executive Officer to the Director of the Army Staff. Command assignments include the 15th Sustainment Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 14th Combat Support Hospital and the 44th Medical Brigade. She served as Chief, Leader Training Center at the AMEDD Center & School, and is currently the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations for the Office of the Surgeon General and U.S. Army Medical Command.

She has Masters Degrees in Public Administration, Military Arts and Science, and National Security and Strategic Studies. She has also completed the Joint Planning Course and the Support Operations Officer Course.

Her deployment experience includes tours as a Corps Planner (OIF2), Task Force Medical 134 (Theater Detainee Operations) Executive Officer (OIF 06-08), and Battalion Commander (OIF 09-11). Her participation in humanitarian operations includes Operation Provide Comfort and Hurricane Katrina Relief Operations.



LIEUTENANT BRANCHES



Ordnance

Matthew Lee (Active)
Connor McMurdo (Active)
Ryan Rehill (Active)
Michaela Schwartz (Active)



Army Nurse corps

Madelyn Gagliardi (Active)



Military Intelligence

Serene Farj (Active)
Justin Siegel (NJ Guard)
Michael Wolf (NJ Guard)



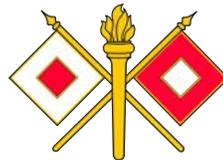
Infantry

Kevin Alarcon (NJ Guard)
Chris Bruce (Active)
Andrew Vitale (NY Guard)



Transportation corps

Raven Adajar (Active)
Alexa Long (Active)



Signal corps

Nicholas Incollingo (Active)



Adjutant General corps

Dong Lee (NJ Guard)



Quartermaster

Daniel Brown (NJ Guard)
Katherine Colaguori (SC Guard)
Yi Liu (NJ Guard)
Matthew McGarrity (NJ Guard)
Helen Park (NJ Guard)



Armor

Dongyeop Lee (Active)
Akash Patel (Active)



Military Police

Kai Jung (Active)

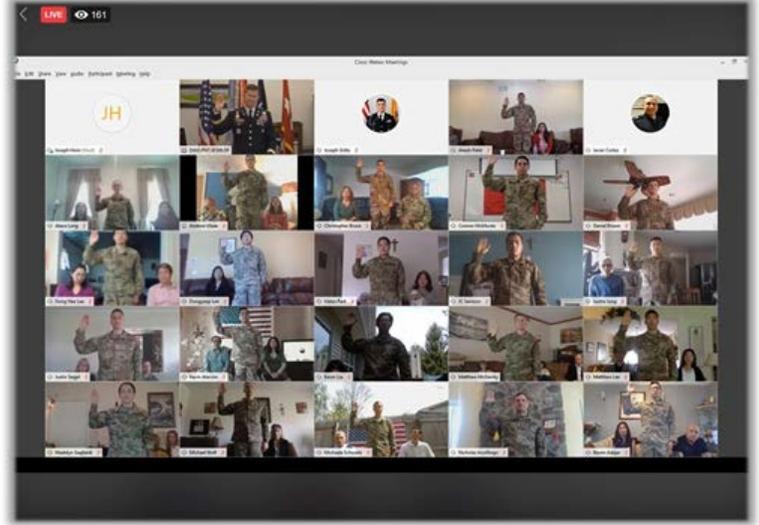


Cyber

Juan Carlo Samson (Active)
David Yang (Active)

COMMISSIONING

On the morning of 19 May 2020, the Scarlet Knight Battalion commissioned 25 2nd Lieutenants in a virtual ceremony. MG Donald E. Jackson, Deputy Inspector General of the U.S. Army Inspector General Agency, delivered a keynote speech and the oath of office for the commissioning class.



ALUMNI INTERVIEW: BG TIMOTHY S. MCLAUGHLIN

BG Timothy S. McLaughlin graduated from Rutgers University and commissioned as an officer in the New Jersey Army National Guard in May of 1990. In 2019, he was selected to serve as the Assistant Adjutant General of the New Jersey Army National Guard, and on 13 May 2020, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. BG McLaughlin also works as the Senior Director of Global Security at Pfizer Inc.

**What was your most memorable experience in ROTC?**

I would say it was the FTXs. We spent a lot of time as MSIIIs and MSIVs in the field going down to Joint Base, which was then Fort Dix, doing a lot of training in the field. I have a lot of good memories which I probably didn't like at the time: going down on a Friday and staying in the barracks, going into the field, and cleaning weapons which were never going to be right until 2:00 AM. I just have really good memories. I have a friend who actually joined ROTC with me in junior year and we have been friends for 30 years now.

I was at his wedding and he was at my wedding. We spent a lot of time in foxholes together doing tactical things. We don't see each other that often anymore, but when we do get together, we just start laughing and going back to those memories of being in the field. I remember one time it was late at night and we were in a defensive position. We had the booby traps and trip wires out. The MS4s started probing the wire and we were startled because we were probably half asleep. We just started firing with our blanks and the hot brass started going down our blouses. Good memories. Good opportunities. Developing together, knowing that we were going to be commissioned officers and going different ways. The camaraderie of it all. Those FTXs are still memorable. Even now as a General Officer, I'll go by some of those barracks where we spent a lot of weekends and it almost sends shivers up my spine thinking about being there. Great experiences, fun times that we're able to laugh at now which prepared us for what the future held for us.

What motivated you to stay in uniform for as long as you have?

I enjoyed being with troops. I really enjoyed being a platoon leader and being in company command; probably one of the best positions in the Army is being a company commander. You're an influencer: you're able to really develop, mentor and push soldiers and see great success. And then you know, you kind of grow up and move on, you become a major and get put on staff and start to look at it like "well maybe it would be nice to become a battalion commander." You want to get into a place where you can influence and mentor company grade officers. And then you reach that and say "maybe there's one more in me. Maybe there's an opportunity to be a brigade level commander and have this influence to be able to propel your organization forward." You take it as it comes.

I've always enjoyed serving, I really have. I enjoyed putting the uniform on. Whether it's federal service on Active Duty for a wartime mission, which is a highlight of my career, or things like Superstorm Sandy and other forms of hurricane support where you're actually going out and helping citizens. Service above everything else. It's terrific. That's what it's about, serving with great people.

What can you tell us about the Class of 1990 and some of the factors involved that helped contribute to your successes?

I would just say that we had a class that had a very good mix of people. There were people that ranged from people like me that came in as MS3s to prior enlisted Cadets with significant time in service that served as E5s and E6s. That was a really nice diversity of having really green people and really experienced people. We had some really hard chargers in the Ranger Challenge program. They were intense. That wasn't me. But they did a really great job. With that diversity on top of different types of races, genders, and experiences we all worked well together. Where someone was weak someone

ALUMNI INTERVIEW: BG TIMOTHY S. MCLAUGHLIN (CONT.)

else lifted up that weak person. Where someone was strong that person provided additional help. We got along together.

General Lodi, she was top. She was excellent. A terrific Cadet, squared away from the very beginning. You could see that she had great potential. It's great to think that Paula and I are serving as General Officers together and that's pretty unique I think.

How do you balance your civilian career with service as a leader in the National Guard?

I've been very very fortunate. Pfizer is a hugely supportive company of the military, always has been. It's a company that is about 170 years old, but has significant ties to the military especially back in World War II where it provided a majority of penicillin to the Allied forces. Very strong bond between the military and Pfizer as a company.

Leadership, up until just a few years ago, a lot of them were ex-military. Senior officers in the military that transitioned over into the civilian world into Pfizer. We actually have a group called VIP: Veterans In Pfizer, which promotes hiring veterans into Pfizer and then helping them make that transition from the military into the corporate world, and I'm a part of that. All of my supervisors along the way embrace what I do and see it as value added. It's a challenge. I have a new job within the company in a global role, so I have colleagues reporting to me from all over the world, in different time zones. My new supervisor knew my role. We just coordinate opportunities for me to take days off for me to go on duty.

On the family side, I've got four kids that are now teenagers and young adults, so it's a little bit easier now. My wife is a true patriot. When I was deployed to Iraq on orders for 18 months and away from my home and my job, she was the one that took responsibility for our four kids. When we talk about the National Guard Triad (Family, Employer and Soldier) it is critically important for the employer to be aligned with what you do, to be supportive, but the family to me is the key. If you don't have the family support, that backbone of the family, you as an individual are not going to be successful in the military. It's a compilation of a bunch of different support mechanisms that enable me to do what I do in both the military and civilian world.

What advice would you like to provide to the current Cadets of the Scarlet Knight Battalion?

Prepare to lead: Prepared to lead now, even if you're an MSI, definitely if you're an MSIV. Whether you're on Active Duty or whether you're in the Reserve Component, you are going to be looked upon just by the matter of fact that you are wearing bars, you are going to be looked upon as a leader. Prepare to lead now. Know your strengths, know your weaknesses and be who you are.

Always be willing to listen and to learn: A lot of mistakes are made by Lieutenants where they think because they're wearing the rank, they know more than they do, and they really don't. The guidance that I was given from one of my ROTC instructors was that, when you're a platoon leader, you basically jump into the hip pocket of that platoon sergeant. Don't put on an air about yourself. You learn, you ask questions and you respect them, and who they are and their experience. Learn them and have them mentor and develop you as a junior officer.

Integrity: Integrity is so critical in our world, in our culture and especially in the military. We've seen a lot of instances where senior officers along the way have had issues with integrity. Integrity is something that we need to own. We need to live by that. Once you lose your integrity, that's it. You're done.

Mission first, soldiers always: I always say that. Every speech that I give, especially Changes of Command, I always charge any incoming commander: "Mission first, soldiers always." We always have to do the mission, that's our responsibility to complete the mission, but who does the missions? It's our soldiers. We need to take care of them, we need to respect them, we need to train and prepare them, we need to be there with their families to support them, and if they're working in the civilian world, we need to support their employers as well.

ALUMNI INTERVIEW: COL(RET) JACK H. JACOBS

COL(RET) Jack H. Jacobs is a graduate of Rutgers University who commissioned as an infantry Officer and served during the Vietnam War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on March 9th, 1968. He continued to serve in the US Army until his retirement in 1987.

**What year did you graduate and what was your major?**

Political science in '66. The Army sent me to graduate school and I came back to Rutgers and got my masters in '72 in Political science too. Political science interested me and I decided at the beginning of my sophomore year that I wanted to go to law school.

What was Rutgers and ROTC like while you were going through it?

ROTC when I got there had just finished being mandatory and there was a very large number of students who were enrolled in ROTC. I don't remember how many commissioned when I graduated, but it was more than 100 I think. It was a very large program and the war in Vietnam was gearing up so there was a significant requirement for Lieutenants. ROTC programs around the country were producing quite a few Lieutenants each year.

Most memorable experience during ROTC?

Commissioning, I think. Genuinely, going to Summer camp was also one of the most memorable where I met lots of cadets from other schools. There were so many people in ROTC around the country that they would have summer camp at a variety of installations. The majority of cadets in the North East would go to Fort Devens, Massachusetts. Back in those days, it was just like basic training. It was about 6-8 weeks long and we stayed in old WWII barracks.

What did you go through after ROTC?

The war was going on so the Army schooling system was not able to handle the huge influx of people coming in. As a result, you didn't go from commissioning to school (Basic Officer Leaders Course). I went directly from taking the oath on June 1st, 1966 and drove down to Fort Bragg, NC. I went right away without going to school and I joined my unit when they were out on a field training exercise. It was some weeks before I got a slot to go to jump school, then I came back to my unit and then went to Infantry school. By the time they sent me to the Infantry Officer course, I had already been at my unit doing field training exercises for a long time. Going to the basic course was just superfluous at that time.

What was your approach to leadership while you were serving and do you think it has changed since?

I don't think anything has changed, I knew that I had to be technically and tactically proficient. Any Soldier would be able to figure out if you don't know what you're doing. I had to do plenty of study while I was in ROTC so I understood things like the principles of war and, therefore, what the priorities were in trying to figure out what to do. I paid attention during summer camp so I knew what I was doing. I spent a lot of time absorbing what I needed to do during on the job training. Also, I learned this at Rutgers, you have to spend time with your troops. When the troops are in the barracks, you're in the barracks; when your troops are in the field, you're in the field. It's a full-time job and I never stinted on the time required in order to be a good leader, in order to learn to be a good leader, and exercise being a good leader. It's not that difficult, it just required time and effort. I didn't find that onus at all. Later on, when I retired from the Army and went into the banking business, I took those same principles with me. You have to know what you're doing, first and foremost, and you have to spend time doing it. You can't lead an organization from some great distance away.

ALUMNI INTERVIEW: COL(RET) JACK H. JACOBS (CONT.)

Any advice for the current Rutgers Army ROTC Cadets and commissioning class?

I got a lot of advice, but I think the first order is to become technically and tactically proficient. You have to know what it is that you're doing. That requires studying and practice. I don't think you could take on the awesome responsibility of leading others unless you know what you're doing. It's not a game, it's serious business and requires your attention. As much attention as you could possibly give it.

Tribute to GEN(RET) Frederick Kroesen



GEN (RET) Frederick Kroesen passed away on 30APR2020 at the age of 97. The Scarlet Knight Battalion's building is named in his honor for being one of the most prestigious alumni. GEN(RET) Frederick Kroesen was born in Phillipsburg, NJ; he graduated from Rutgers University in 1944 and commissioned as an infantry officer. He was sent to Europe and fought in eastern France. His career spanned 40 years from World War II to the Cold War. His senior assignments include Commanding General of US Army Forces Command, US Army Vice Chief of Staff, Commanding General of the Seventh US Army, US Army Europe, and NATO Central Army Group. Even after his retirement in 1983, Frederick Kroesen remained an advocate for service. He made numerous appearances to commemorations and memorials to include honoring the 74th anniversary of D-Day in 2018 at the National World War II Memorial.

CADET STORYBOARDS

Who: CDT Hannah Lederman

What: NJ National Guard COVID-19 Mobilization

When: 10 APR 2020 - Present

Where: Veteran's Memorial Home, Paramus, NJ

Summary: CDT Hannah Lederman was mobilized with her unit, B BTRY 3-112th FA, to the Veterans Home in Paramus, NJ on 10 APR 2020. Nearly every resident has tested positive and numerous have passed away as a result of COVID-19 complications. She and other soldiers at the home have been doing both administrative and medical work, covering down for the lack of nurses at the facility. This can mean anything from taking patient's vitals to answering phones. An important aspect of the mission is personal protection equipment (PPE), such as masks, gloves, gowns, and face shields. The chain of command is strictly enforcing the wear of PPE and emphasizing the importance of properly doffing PPE from patient to patient in an attempt to reduce the spread of the virus within the home.



Who: MSIVs

What: Staff Ride

When: 06 MAR 2020

Where: 9/11 Memorial

Summary: The MSIVs conducted the annual staff ride at the 9/11 Memorial in New York City, NY. The purpose of this event is to understand how the past events of 9/11 affected the various departments of the Army and the United States Government. The MSIVs went on a museum tour followed by a 1 hour discussion about previously researched topics like Command and Control, Intelligence, Active Duty, Movement and Maneuver, Reserves, and Sustainment.



WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA



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please follow the links below:

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Instagram: @rutgersarmyrotc

Website: <https://armyrotc.rutgers.edu/home>

Donations: <https://armyrotc.rutgers.edu/donate>



A special thank you to Rutgers Alumni BG(RET) Bruce B. Bingham for his continuous donations to the Scarlet Knight Battalion throughout the years. He commissioned in 1968 and retired from his last assignment in 2001 Your contributions do not go unnoticed sir, thank you!



Congratulations to Rutgers Army ROTC alumni BG Timothy S. McLaughlin who was promoted on 13 May 2020. The promotion ceremony was held at the Westfield Armory in Westfield, NJ.