

# THE 1MC

OCTOBER ISSUE



## MIDTERMS VERSUS MICHAEL

The month of October was extremely busy for the Battalion. While no classes were canceled due to Hurricane Michael, plenty of midshipmen felt the effects of the storm nonetheless.

All the same, the Battalion was extremely productive. The main focus of the month was preparing for and carrying out 4/C Sea Trials, all while balancing other facets of college life, mainly midterms.

Next month will be our most packed month yet. In addition to the Battalion's regularly scheduled leadership labs, the Battalion will also be heavily involved in NCSU's Military Appreciation Day football game on 8 November and will be attending the NCPR Consortium's annual Fall Ball on 16 November. Additionally, this fall's five graduating seniors will have a dedicated section for their reflections on their time at NCSU and with the Battalion.

Be sure to check out the Battalion Instagram for additional content, including MIDN of the week highlights. Our Facebook is also a great place to stay updated with our latest events and photos!



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**OCTOBER**  
**FALL 2018**

# F-35C Integration Testing

By MIDN Medsker



LEFT - MIDN 4/C  
MEDSKER INTRODUCING  
THE F-35C

RIGHT - MIDN 1/C WHITE  
REMINING THE  
BATTALION OF HIS  
TENETS



## LEADERSHIP LABS

### 26 SEPTEMBER

Lab began with MIDN 4/C Medsker's current event brief on the new F-35 trials. MIDN Medsker's presentation focused on the new stealth and visual capabilities of this 5th generation fighter. After this presentation, the Battalion CO (MIDN 1/C White) held a short discussion on the meaning of his three principles. The Battalion CO's three core tenets are: don't be entitled, get out of your comfort zone, and smile and be happy. Following the Battalion CO, the Battalion XO, MIDN 1/C Haritan, announced there would be a Battalion Funds discussion meeting soon. At this meeting, the Battalion XO will highlight how the Battalion makes money, the Battalion budget versus expenses, and ideas for future fundraising. Following this, Captain Stern discussed the proper method of

writing an email in the military. He concluded that effective communication ultimately boils down to keeping messages clear and concise.

After Captain Stern gave his wisdom, the Battalion moved into Company Breakouts. During the breakouts, Bravo moved to a different room for a short presentation by OC Leatherman on the enlisted perspective, Alpha prepared for the next brief, and Charlie Company moved to a separate area to learn how to prep their ruck sacks for a hike on 12 October.

Next, Alpha and Bravo rejoined for a presentation on the life of a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) by Lieutenant Benjamin W. Kozlowski. LT Kozlowski is a Warfare Tactics Instructor (WTI) at Naval Surface

Mine Warfighting Development Center-Dahlgren. In his presentation, he discussed three broad topics: Surface Warfare community, opportunities as a SWO, and the WTI Program. LT Kozlowski discussed in-depth the billets available to a SWO, responsibilities as a SWO, various home port locations, deployments and missions, port calls, working life, tour lengths, and leave. LT Kozlowski also discussed the origins of the WTI program, which was born from the TOPGUN school. Last, he also briefed the job of a WTI, which is to train SWOs on advanced tactics, career advancement possibilities, and various additional responsibilities of a WTI. Upon the conclusion of the presentation, the Battalion was dismissed for another day of learning and growth.

**- MIDN 4/C Gannon**



# 3 OCTOBER

## LEADERSHIP REACTION COURSES

Leadership Lab began with a speech from Captain Stern. He spoke to the Battalion about the significance of awards and the types of awards sailors can receive. While no one does their job for recognition alone, awards play an important role by positively reinforcing hard work and moral decisions. After his discussion, Captain Stern presented OC Baez with his second Good Conduct Medal.

MIDN 4/C Kukura briefed the Battalion on Hurricane Florence and its impact on North Carolina. MIDN 1/C Haley III was then recognized for winning the Battalion's first caption contest. This week's picture was presented, and the new winner will be announced at next lab.

Next, the Battalion transitioned to company breakout sessions. Charlie Company spent the remainder of lab learning weapons handling. The midshipmen got some beneficial hands-on experience with M16s. They were taught weapon conditions and the four basic safety rules: "treat, never, keep, keep."



OC BAEZ PREPARING TO RECEIVE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL



CAPTAIN STERN EXPLAINING MILITARY AWARDS

Alpha and Bravo completed their first set of leadership reaction courses (LRCs). In assigned groups, the



MIDN 4/C KUKURA DETAILS PATH OF HURRICANE FLORENCE

midshipmen rotated stations to complete various exercises. Some were more mentally challenging while others were more physical, but all required teamwork and strong leadership. The LRCs gave everyone an opportunity to practice their leadership and communication skills.

**-MIDN 4/C Belcher**







## 10 OCTOBER

Although the weather was still characteristically warm for an October morning in Raleigh, the uniform of the day for this week's lab was khakis. After taking accountability, the Battalion moved into the classroom to receive a current event brief from MIDN 4/C Kellerman and some weekly words of wisdom from the Commanding Officer, Captain Stern. MIDN Kellerman talked about the current



MAJ STEINFELS AND GYSGT  
BRADLEY BRIEF FOR SULE

political relations between the Russian and Indian governments. After the current event brief, the CO gave the Battalion some useful information about what it might be like moving from one duty station to

another as an officer. He included everything from which moving companies are typically used to what it's like finding employment for spouses. After listening to the CO speak and midshipmen asking questions, the Battalion made a quick head and water call, and then dispersed into Company Breakouts.

Charlie Company received a briefing about Fire Team Formations and the different hand and arm signals that are used in the practical application of a Small Unit Leadership Exercise (SULE). A SULE can be described as a simulated combat scenario evaluating proficiency at leading in stressful situations. Officer Candidates at Officer Candidate

School (OCS) are required to lead a SULE and are judged on their effectiveness and ability to use the techniques that were demonstrated in Charlie Company's briefing. MIDN 2/C Alden and MIDN 3/C Murphy gave the brief, both demonstrating the various formations and signals to the Company. Hopefully with this knowledge, all candidates of Charlie Company can pass the SULEs at OCS.

Alpha Department participated in a debate about the use of atomic bombs to end World War II. Alpha 1 was tasked with debating on the side in favor of the bombing while Alpha 2 was debating against them. Alpha 1 made the argument that the Japanese







MIDN 4/C GOSWICK ABSORBING VALUABLE INFORMATION

bombed Pearl Harbor without being at war with the U.S. and that the use of bombs saved more American and Japanese lives versus if the war had continued. They also argued that the draft meant that many were lawfully required to fight and die for their country, so ending the war quickly was paramount. Alpha 2 countered by saying that the use of the bombs was against international laws and that other tactics could have been used to get Japan to surrender. They also argued that the result should not justify the means because the line between ethical and unethical is unclear or nonexistent. Both sides presented compelling arguments, especially for so early in the morning!

Bravo Department started out their breakout by receiving a history brief from MIDN 2/C Verrico about the USS ENTERPRISE and its significance to our future officers.

BRAVO DEPARTMENT FALLING INTO FORMATION FOR DRILL



ALPHA ONE PREPARING REBUTTAL DURING DEBATE

Bravo also had Community Breakouts in which the midshipmen could ask questions and hear about life in each of the Navy's communities including aviation, surface, subs, and special warfare. This hopefully helped midshipmen get some insight on their future career choices in the Navy. Finally, Bravo department touched up their skills in drill movements in the Brickyard. Since drill is not required

for Navy options in NROTC past their freshman year, it is always beneficial to polish up their skills on occasion. They worked on movements such as columns, flanks, to the rear, open and close ranks, and saluting.



BRAVO DEPARTMENT PRACTICING DRILL MOVEMENTS



MIDN 2/C STARR PROVIDING OPENING ARGUMENTS

Overall, lab was another success! Important and relevant information was passed to each of the companies and each midshipman was given the opportunity to learn or review something they may not have otherwise.

**- MIDN 3/C Ward**

# SEA TRIALS



OCTOBER FALL 2018





## 24 OCTOBER

Lab began with Company Breakouts. Charlie Company continued preparations for SULE, practicing patrolling and combat formations in the Court of Carolinas and the Brickyard. With guidance from MECEPs, midshipmen learned different techniques for squad movement across open areas, alleyways, and urban streets. MECEPs also gave critical feedback after watching midshipmen practice the events to better prepare them for the graded SULEs they will encounter at OCS.

The Navy options (Alpha and Bravo) received another of MIDN 2/C Kirkland's history briefs, this time focusing on the history of conflict in the ancient world. He discussed civilizations of the past such as the Persians and the Greeks, along with their conquests towards greater military power. He concluded by tying together the lesson that knowledge of our past is important to our futures as military officers.



MRS. RATASHAK EXPLAINING PROJECT GO

Following MIDN Kirkland's brief, CAPT Stoops took the floor. Father to MIDN 2/C Stoops and naval aviator since 1991, he had much wisdom and insight to share with the Battalion. CAPT Stoops gave a brief timeline of his naval service, from the time of his commissioning to the present, before discussing the concept of change. He emphasized that technology and capabilities of our allies and enemies are constantly changing, and we must adapt with these changes to stay in the fight. He currently works for the Operational Test and Evaluation Force, ensuring that positive changes and upgrades are being made to our fleet, equipment, and weapons systems.

Next, Mrs. Shanna Ratashak then introduced Project GO to the Battalion, advocating for the program which provides midshipmen with scholarships and travel opportunities while they learn a new language.

Finally, MIDN 2/C Krasny gave a brief presentation on the schedule of events for Sea Trials. Overall, it was a productive lab session for the Battalion.

**-MIDN 2/C Perry**

CAPTAIN STOOPS INTRODUCING HIMSELF TO THE BATTALION





# SEA TRIALS

Sea Trials began on a cloudy Saturday morning on 27 October, but the energy of the midshipmen in the Close-King Practice Facility would quickly overcome the gloomy weather. The event began with an encouraging word from the Battalion Commanding Officer, MIDN 1/C White. Afterward, the 4/C transitioned into a drill competition and four leadership reaction courses (LRCs). During the whole event, all the midshipmen were in a nostalgic

mood, listening to MIDN 2/C Perry's 'Middle School Dance Music' playlist.

After Drill, MIDN 2/C Krasny, the MIDN-In-Charge for the event, transitioned everyone into a physical training (PT) competition. Carrying logs, ammo cans, and medicine balls, the 4/C competed against upperclassmen teams. The 4/C gave all they had but were no match for the upperclassmen. The PT competition then extended to the whole Battalion in a relay race. This race included 60 yards of somersaults that made many midshipmen dizzy. Finally, Sea Trials concluded with some team sports, including soccer, football, and ultimate frisbee. After some tough competition, the midshipmen were rewarded with a hearty lunch of pizza, bananas, and oranges. Captain Stern briefly addressed the Battalion prior to dismissal and the midshipmen were free to carry on with their Saturday afternoons.

Sea Trials was overall an extremely fun and rewarding experience. The 4/C midshipmen were initially grouped together in teams and we were tested on everything we had learned since New Student Orientation (NSO). My team flew through the LRCs; we finished most of them with several minutes to spare. I really enjoyed the drill competition because it made me reminisce about the drill competitions I had in NJROTC during high school. Afterwards, we moved on to the PT competitions, which were not as bad as I expected but still challenging. Finally, after all the competitions were over, we were free to participate in friendly games of team sports while waiting for the pizza to arrive. I left the event with a feeling of accomplishment because I could see the results of all my efforts since NSO, and I look forward to Sea Trials in future years.

**-MIDN 4/C Garcia**



CAPTAIN STERN CLOSING OUT SEA TRIALS

**-MIDN 2/C Starr**



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