



Commissioned Corps BULLETIN

(Supplemental Article)

Division of Commissioned Personnel • Program Support Center, DHHS

CCB Supplemental – Vol. XVIII, No. 2

February 2004

☆☆☆ ONLY AVAILABLE ON THE DIVISION OF COMMISSIONED PERSONNEL'S WEB SITE—<http://dcp.psc.gov>. ☆☆☆

Basic Officer Training Course Classes – 2003

United States Public Health Service
Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

JANUARY 21 - 23, 2003

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Members of the Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Training Academy (CAPT F. Behan, CDR D. Taylor, LTJG C. Oyster), Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, at the request of the Indian Health Service, traveled to Anchorage, AK, to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), January 21 - 23, 2003, and a 1-Day Basic Orientation on January 24.

These programs were conducted at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in the Yukon Room of the Alyeska Building. The BOTC was attended by 64 officers mostly from duty sites throughout Alaska. The Basic Orientation was an entirely different group of supervisors and managers from the commissioned corps, civil service, and tribal hire.

The typical day began with a drive to the training site in the dark, snowy, cold. Light did not appear until the time of the first morning break (9:45 a.m.). Each day was bright and sunny, but by



the end of the class the darkness had returned. The team went to the training site in darkness, and returned at the end of the day in darkness.

The presenters accepted three evening invitations from local officers and Commissioned Officers Association representatives. This provided the opportunity to share a meal, learn about assignments in Alaska, make contacts, and continue the class by pro-

jecting presentations on a wall in a private home following dinner.

There was a single eagle seen in a tree, a few moose sightings along the roadside, the aurora, a tour of the relatively new Alaskan Native Hospital, reindeer sausages, smoked salmon and halibut, a lot of cold, snow, and ice outside, great views of mountains, and much warmth and hospitality provided by the Alaskans.



(Continued on page 2)

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

FEBRUARY 4 - 6, 2003

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

Members of the Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Training Academy (CDR D. Taylor, CDR M. Timmons, LTJG C. Oyster), Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, at the request of the Indian Health Service, traveled to Albuquerque, NM, to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), February 4 - 6, 2003.

The BOTC was completed by 39 officers, mostly from duty sites in the southwest, with grades from LTJG to CAPT.



All officers were provided with their individual passwords to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course

(IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC, officers are awarded the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

FEBRUARY 24 - 28, 2003

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

Members of the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 5-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), February 24 - 28, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The class consisted of 31 officers in the beginning of their careers. These officers traveled from 14 States, and serve in nine major Agencies/Programs of the Federal Government.

The class experienced: classroom-style presentations; uniform inspections; two trips to the uniform shop of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD; Q&A sessions; ID card generation; individual and group picture taking; evening experiences in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and Washington, DC; visits from Surgeon General VADM Carmona, Deputy Surgeon General RADM Moritsugu, and RADM Babb (Commissioned Corps Readiness Force); and a closing ceremony on Friday, February 28.



The closing ceremony began sharply at 2 p.m. with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors, National Anthem, 'Welcome and Opening Remarks' by CAPT Behan, 'Class Reflections' by LT Hochberg, 'The Charge' by RADM Vanderwagen of the Indian Health Service, and graduation with the presentation of BOTC Certificates with family and friends in attendance.

The course was conducted during a heightened national terror alert, threatening snow storms, various BOTC contingency plans, and liberal leave for workers in effect on February 28. The nights were cold, the sound of Air Force interceptors overhead could be heard, and the class was most energetic, positive, and ready to serve as officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps.



(Continued on page 3)

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**MARCH 5 - 7, 2003
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

Members of the Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), March 5 - 7, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The BOTC class consisted of 13 officers in the beginning of their careers.

The prescribed uniform was the Field Utility Uniform, also known as BDU. The class experienced: daily Morning Colors; classroom-style presentations; additional activities during lunch; uniform inspections; the uniform shop of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD; Q&A sessions; ID card generation; and a group picture. These officers traveled from 11 States and Micronesia, and are serving with the Health Resources and Services



Administration, mostly with the National Health Service Corps.

In addition to the BOTC, these officers were undertaking 14 days of intense Ready Responder training provided at

the National Naval Medical Center, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, and Fort Detrick.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**MARCH 10 - 14, 2003
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 5-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), March 10 - 14, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The BOTC class consisted of 27 officers in the beginning of their careers. These officers traveled from 12 States and are serving in 6 major Agencies/Programs of the Federal Government.

The class experienced: classroom-style presentations; uniform inspections; classroom instruction; saluting exercises; Uniformed Service protocols; a walk-through of the National Naval Medical Center in uniform with resultant encounters providing the opportunity to execute



what was taught; morning reviews of previous night activities; two visits to the uniform shop of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD, to find, try-on, be fitted, and purchase; Q&A sessions; ID card gen-

eration; individual picture in uniform with U.S. and PHS flags; a group picture; evening experiences in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and Washington, DC; visits by RADM Couig (Nurse Chief

(Continued on page 4)

March 10 - 14, 2003, Rockville, Maryland Class *(Continued)*

Professional Officer), CAPT Ganaway (Immigration and Naturalization Service), and CAPT Green (Food and Drug Administration Commissioned Corps Liaison); and a closing ceremony on Friday, March 14.

The closing ceremony began at 2 p.m. with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors, National Anthem, 'Opening Address' by CAPT Behan, 'Class

Thoughts' by LTJG Pruszko, 'The Charge' by Deputy Surgeon General RADM Moritsugu, and graduation with the presentation of BOTC Certificates with family and friends in attendance.

The course was conducted during a national terror alert, sunny days with cool evenings, and the melting of snow from storms of recent weeks. Overhead, stars were visible, and Air Force interceptors

heard, there was much talk of Iraq and the United Nations in the newspapers and on TV, but most memorable was the class itself. Bonds were formed; individual identities generated. The class was energetic and positive. They arrived on Monday as 27 individuals, and left on Friday as 'One'—ready to serve the Nation as officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**APRIL 14 - 18, 2003
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 5-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), April 14 - 18, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The BOTC class consisted of 32 newly commissioned officers in the beginning their PHS careers. These officers traveled from 12 States and are serving in 10 major Agencies/Programs of the Federal Government.

The class experienced: classroom-style presentations; uniform inspections; classroom instruction; saluting exercises; Uniformed Service protocols; a walk-through of the National Naval Medical Center in uniform with resultant encounters providing the opportunity to execute what was taught; morning reviews of previous night activities; two visits to the uniform shop of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD, to find, try-on, be fitted, and purchase; Q&A sessions; ID card generation; individual picture in uniform with U.S. and PHS flags; a group picture with Surgeon General VADM Carmona;



evening experiences in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and Washington, DC; and a closing ceremony on Friday, April 18.

The closing ceremony began at 2 p.m. with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors, National Anthem, 'Opening Address' by CAPT Behan, 'Class Reflections' by LT Newman, comments from RADM Haffner (Food and Drug Administration) and Harry (Indian Health Service), and 'The Charge' by Deputy Surgeon

General RADM Moritsugu, followed by graduation with the presentation of BOTC Certificates with family and friends in attendance.

Bonds were formed; individual identities generated. The class was energetic and positive. They arrived on Monday as 32 individuals, and left on Friday as 'One'—ready to serve the Nation as officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps



(Continued on page 5)

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2003

FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO

Members of the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy (CDRs D. Taylor, M. Timmons and LTJG C. Oyster), Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, at the request of the Indian Health Service, traveled by air to Albuquerque, packed-up a rental car, then drove 3½ hours to the course site on the campus of San Juan College, Farmington, NM, to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), April 30 - May 2, 2003.

The course was presented in an excellent auditorium-styled lecture hall. Deer, prairie dogs, officers, and friendly locals all contributed to a memorable experience. The BOTC was completed by 54 of-



ficers primarily from duty sites in the southwest serving on the Navajo, with grades from LTJG to CAPT.

All officers were provided with their individual passwords to the Web-based

Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC, officers are awarded the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

MAY 12 - 16, 2003

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 2-week training program, May 12 - 23, 2003, in conjunction with the Commissioned Corps Readiness Force of the OSG.

The initial days (May 12 - 16) were a 5-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC) for 9 officers in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The BOTC class consisted of newly commissioned officers beginning their PHS careers. These officers later joined 49 others during the second week.

The initial week (BOTC) experienced: classroom style presentations; uniform inspections; classroom instruction; saluting exercises; Uniformed Service protocols; a walk-through of the National



Naval Medical Center in uniform with resultant encounters providing the opportunity to execute what was taught; morning reviews of previous night activities; two visits to the uniform shop

of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD, to find, try-on, be fitted, and purchase; Q&A sessions; ID card generation; individual picture in uniform with U.S. and PHS flags; a group picture; evening

(Continued on page 6)

May 12 - 16, 2003, Rockville, Maryland Class *(Continued)*

experiences in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and Washington, DC; and a closing ceremony on Friday.

The closing ceremony began at 2 p.m. with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors, National Anthem, 'Welcome' by CAPT Behan, 'Class Reflections' by LCDR Bryant, comments from RADM Harry (Indian Health Service), 'Opening

Remarks' by CAPT Stevens, and 'Key-note Address' by Deputy Surgeon General RADM Moritsugu, followed by graduation with the presentation of BOTC Certificates with family and friends in attendance.

During the second week, the BOTC class joined 49 other officers who completed a BOTC at an earlier date, thus

making a total of 58 completing the second week. The second week consisted of emergency training such as classroom instruction, BLS, inoculations, physical fitness training, and testing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**MAY 27 - 29, 2003
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO**

Members of the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA) (CDR D. Taylor and LTJG C. Oyster), Office Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, at the request of the Food and Drug Administration, traveled to San Juan, PR, to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), May 27 - 29, 2003, and a Basic Orientation, May 30, 2003.

The BOTC was completed by 11 officers serving with the Food and Drug Administration in HI, GA, MD, PR, and VI, with grades from LTJG to CAPT. All officers were provided with their individual passwords to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC,



officers are awarded the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

The Basic Orientation was attended primarily by nine civilians from PR.

These programs reached out to officers and workers that are somewhat isolated. The COTA efforts were greatly appreciated.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**JUNE 19 - 21, 2003
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA**

Members of the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officers Training Academy (CAPT Frank Behan, CDRs Cheryl Wiseman and Dana Taylor, and LTJG Carrie Oyster), Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), June 19 - 21,



(Continued on page 7)

June 19 - 21, 2003, Scottsdale, Arizona Class (Continued)

2003, in conjunction with the '2003 Public Health Conference' held in Scottsdale, AZ.

This was the 51st BOTC class and the largest to date with 144 officers completing the course. In a truly memorable experience for all, officers traveled from 25

States, representing 10 of the 11 professional categories, and from all of the major Agencies/Programs.

This class brought the number of officers completing the BOTC to 1,651.

Officers who complete the BOTC receive their individual passwords to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC), and are expected to complete the IOTC and earn their PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**JULY 14 - 18, 2003
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Office Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 5-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), July 14 - 18, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The BOTC class consisted of 45 newly commissioned officers beginning their PHS careers. These officers traveled from 20 States and are serving primarily with the Bureau of Prisons. One officer was from the Food and Drug Administration, and a U.S. Army Major, who would soon be on active duty with the PHS, also attended this class.

The class experienced: classroom-style presentations; uniform inspections; classroom instruction; saluting exercises; Uniformed Service protocols; a walk-through of the National Naval Medical Center with the opportunity to execute what was taught; morning reviews of previous night activities; a visit to the uniform shop of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD, to find, try-on, be fitted,



and purchase; Q&A sessions; ID card generation; individual picture in uniform with U.S. and PHS flags; a group picture; evening experiences in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and Washington, DC; and a closing ceremony on Friday, July 18.

The closing ceremony began with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors (class Color Guard), National Anthem, 'Welcome Address' by CAPT Behan, 'Class Reflections' by ENS Jackson-Eddings, comments from RADM Harry (Indian Health Service) and CAPT Kendig (Bureau of Prisons), 'Congratulatory Remarks' by RADM

Babb (Commissioned Corps Readiness Force), and 'The Keynote Address' by Deputy Surgeon General RADM Moritsugu, followed by graduation with presentation of BOTC Certificates with family and friends in attendance.

Bonds were formed; individual identities generated. The class was energetic and positive. They arrived on Monday as 45 individuals, and left on Friday as 'One'—one member of a team ready to serve the Nation as officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps



(Continued on page 8)

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

JULY 28 - 30, 2003

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Members of the Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA) (CDR D. Taylor, CDR C. Wiseman, and LTJG C. Oyster), Office Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, at the request of the Indian Health Service (IHS), traveled to various sites in South Dakota to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), July 28-30, 2003, and two versions of the Basic Orientation, July 31 and August 4 - 5, 2003.

The BOTC was completed by 52 officers primarily serving with the IHS in the north central States. All officers were provided with their individual passwords to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC, officers



are awarded the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

The Basic Orientations were attended by 23 supervisors and managers.

These three programs reached out to officers and workers who are somewhat isolated, and the COTA efforts were greatly appreciated.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

AUGUST 24 - 26, 2003

BUTNER, NORTH CAROLINA

Members of the Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Training Academy (CDR D. Taylor, CDR C. Wiseman and LTJG C. Oyster), Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, at the request of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP), conducted two 3-Day Basic Officer Training Courses (BOTCs), August 24 - 26 and August 27 - 29, 2003. These courses were presented at the Federal Correctional Complex, Butner, NC.

The two BOTCs were completed by 44 officers from duty sites serving the BOP.

Upon completion of the BOTC, officers were provided with their individual pass-



words to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC, offi-

cers are awarded the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE (INAUGURAL IR CORPS)

SEPTEMBER 8 - 12, 2003

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), September 8 - 12, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The BOTC component was part of the Inaugural Inactive Reserve Corps training which included programs of the Office of the Surgeon General (Commissioned Corps Readiness Force and Inactive Reserve).

The BOTC class consisted of 42 Inactive Reserve Corps officers from across the country. Examples of the class experiences were: classroom-style presentations; uniform inspections; classroom instruction; saluting exercises; Uniformed Service protocols; the National Naval Medical Center for immunizations and barber shop; a visit to the uniform shop of the Naval Exchange in Bethesda, MD; PT, BLS, activation procedures; Q&A ses-



sions; individual pictures in uniform; a group picture; evening opportunities in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and Washington, DC; and a closing ceremony on Friday, September 12.

The closing ceremony began with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors (class Color Guard), National Anthem, 'Eagle Song' by CDR Murillo, 'Welcome Address' by CAPT Behan, 'Class Reflections' by CAPT Ware, 'Opening Remarks' by CAPT Sayers, Deputy Sur-

geon General RADM Moritsugu, Acting Assistant Secretary for Health RADM Beato, and 'Keynote Address' by Surgeon General VADM Carmona, followed by graduation with the presentation of BOTC Certificates.

They arrived as 42 individuals, and left on Friday as 'One'—one member of a team ready to serve the Nation as needed as officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

NOVEMBER 12 - 14, 2003

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA), Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), November 12 - 14, 2003, in Rockville, MD. For a number of the officers, it was a continuation of an earlier BOTC which was cancelled in September due to Hurricane Isabel that resulted in the closure of the Federal Government.

The BOTC was completed by 36 officers from seven States, with grades from LTJG to CAPT, and are serving with the following Agencies/Programs: Centers for



Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Homeland Security, Food and Drug Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, Indian Health Service, Office of the Secretary, and Program Support Center.

All officers were provided with their individual passwords to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC, officers are awarded the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.



(Continued on page 10)

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

DECEMBER 15 - 19, 2003
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Training Academy, Officer Support Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel, conducted a 5-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), December 15 - 19, 2003, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The class consisted of 32 newly commissioned officers beginning their PHS careers. These officers traveled from eight States and are serving with ATSDR, CDC, CMS, DOD, FDA, FOH, HRSA, IHS, and OS.

The class experienced: uniform inspections; classroom style presentations; saluting exercises; Uniformed Service protocols; morning reviews of previous night activities; opportunity to visit the uniform shops at the National Naval Medical Center and Walter Reed Annex; review and comment on the 'On-Line Training Guidebook' under development as a pre-BOTC resource for newly commissioned officers; Q&A sessions; ID card generation; individual and group pictures in uniform with U.S. and PHS flags and Surgeon General VADM Carmona; experiences in Rockville, MD, Bethesda, MD, and an evening Metro ride



to Washington, DC, for dinner and the sights (monuments, National and State Christmas trees, and White House); and a closing ceremony on Friday, December 19.

The closing ceremony began with a class Processional, Presentation of Colors (class Color Guard), National Anthem, 'Welcome Address' by CAPT Behan, 'Class Reflections' by LTs Kidd and Wolfgang, 'Congratulatory Remarks' by RADM Haffner (Food and Drug Administration), and 'The Keynote Ad-

resses' by Deputy Surgeon General RADM Moritsugu and RADM Lawrence, followed by graduation with the presentation of BOTC Certificates with family and friends in attendance.

Individual identities were broadened and bonds formed. The class was energetic and positive. They arrived on Monday as 32 individuals and left on Friday as 'One'—one member of a team ready to serve the Nation as officers in the PHS Commissioned Corps.



United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

