

COLLEGE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING CAMP LEJEUNE



Graduation

**Command and Staff College Distance Education Program and
Expeditionary Warfare School Distance Education Program
and Blended Seminar Program**

June 5, 2025



Sequence of Events:

Invocation

National Anthems

Honors to Brigadier General Ralph J. Rizzo
Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations East

Opening Remarks
Mr. Marc Riccio
Regional Director, CDET Camp Lejeune

Guest of Honor Remarks

Award Recognitions

Announcement of Graduates and Presentation of Diplomas

Benediction

The Army Song / Anchors Aweigh / Marines Hymn

Conclusion

Brigadier General Ralph J. Rizzo, USMC

Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations East

Brigadier General Rizzo was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts. He graduated from Western New England College in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in Criminal Justice. After working in local law enforcement, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, and graduated from MCRD Parris Island in 1990. After completing Recruit Training, he reported to the School of Infantry where he attained the MOS of 0341 Mortarman.



In January 1991 he received orders to MarBks Ground Defense Force, Subic Bay, Philippines where he participated in Operation Fiery Vigil in June 1991. Upon the deactivation of MarBks, Subic Bay he received orders to 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, 1st Marine Division as an 81 MM Mortar Platoon Section Leader and promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

In August 1994 he was accepted for the Enlisted Commissioning Program and attended Officer Candidate School, The Basic School (with Honors), and Infantry Officer Course, obtaining the MOS 0302. Brigadier General Rizzo accepted augmentation in November 1998 in conjunction with the supplementary MOS program and reported to Logistics Officer School where he received the MOS of 0402.

Brigadier General Rizzo's operational assignments include: Platoon Commander, 81MM Mortar Platoon Commander, and Executive Officer, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines; Weapons Company Commander, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines; Company Commander, 2nd Maintenance Battalion, 2nd Force Service Support Group (Operation IRAQI FREEDOM); Battle Major/Senior Watch Officer, CJTF-76 (Operation ENDURING FREEDOM); Commanding Officer, Combat Logistics Battalion-6 (Operation ENDURING FREEDOM); and CJ4, CJTF-HOA.

His staff and joint assignments include: S-4 Officer, Camp Johnson Area/MCCSSS; Recruit Station Commanding Officer, Recruiting Station Detroit, MI; Program Analyst, Joint Fires Div., J6, CJCS; Global Force Management Future Operations Officer, Current and Future Operations Branch, PP&O; Commanding Officer, MARCOR Det. Fort Leonard Wood, MO; AC/S G4, III MEF; Chief of Staff, III MEF; Deputy Commander, Marine Corps Installations East-Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC; and Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations East-Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC.

Brigadier General Rizzo is a graduate of The Basic School (with Honors), Infantry Officers Course, Logistics Officers Course, U.S. Naval War College (with Honors), Marine Corps War College, and High Command and Staff Course at the United Kingdom Defence Academy.

Brigadier General Rizzo assumed the duties of commander, MCIEAST-MCB Camp Lejeune, in May 2024. Following U.S. Senate approval, he was promoted to his current rank of Brigadier General on Jan. 13, 2025, making him the tenth commanding general of MCIEAST-MCB Camp Lejeune.

Award Recipients

The Krulak Scholars Program

Capt Reuben M. Thomas

The China Scholars Program

Capt Jayde J. Dotson

Capt Satchel O. Stauffer

Capt James A. Taylor

Regional Director's Annual Writing Contest

Capt Kevin E. Aflatooni

1stLt Lyndsay D. Cribb

AY25 Command and Staff College Distance Education Program Graduates

MSgt Melvin Alegria	Maj Miles Essay	*Maj Michael Putney
Capt Chreston Allen	Maj Brittany Fayos	Maj Michael Reynolds
Capt Chris Banks	*Capt Timothy Golden	Maj Zachariah Rocco
Capt Archie Bass	Maj Luke Goodwill	Capt Lindsey Rodriguez
Maj Benjamin Bechard	Maj Ryan Grogan	Capt Simone Romano
Maj Romell Boyce	Maj Heather Gumpert	Maj Mark Rothrock
*Maj Adam Breslin	Maj Seth Hall	*Maj William Savino
Maj Robert Brooks	Capt George Hinojosa-Rodriguez	Maj Molly Smith
*Maj Nicholas Buda	Maj Jordan Iida	*CWO4 Sean Sutter
*CAPT Elizabeth Bundt	CWO3 Scott Jackson	Maj Case Tierney
*Maj Pierre Butler	Capt Robert Jevning	*Maj Jacob Turk
CWO3 Deenroy Carlos	Maj Nicholas Kostovny	Maj Steven Verblaauw
Maj Kevin Chathas	1stSgt Justin Mansfield	Maj Alexander Wentz
Capt Andrew Clarke	LCDR Caroline Mastrangelo	Maj Zachary Williams
*Maj Alexander Coffey	Maj Forrest Mitchell	Maj Wesley Wood
Maj Adam Crotty	Capt Tyler Montague	Capt Joseph Yanuzzi
Maj Brett Deiters	Capt Alanna Norback	
*Capt Dan Ecker	Maj William Oblak	
Capt Travis Elliott	CWO3 Brian Palmer	*Distinguished Graduate

AY25 Expeditionary Warfare School Distance Education Program Graduates

Capt Erin Aitcheson	Capt Bruce Hilty	Capt Aaron Rody
Capt Wesley Alexander	Capt William Hogan	Capt Megan Rogers
Capt Aditya Atholi	Capt Robert Holthe	Capt John Rombach
Capt Peyton Bembry	Capt Brandon James	Capt Alessandro Rossi
Capt Stephen Bolton	Capt Monqavious Johnson	Capt Nathan Rothenberger
1stLt William Brown	Capt Sven Jorgensen	Capt David Roy
Capt Andrew Bunker	CWO2 Tyler Kastrup	*Capt John Rueckel
Capt Jonathan Bunker	Capt James Kim	CWO2 Pierre Sanchez
CWO2 Reed Callister	Capt Daniel Lastra	Capt Charles Sapienza
Capt Alexander Calogero	*CWO2 Jarred Latour	*Capt Dakota Schutter
Capt Yoshimar Candela	Capt Brian Lay	*Capt James Schwab
Capt Adrian Cardona	Capt Michael Lazar	Capt Michael Scifres
1stLt Joseph Caudill	Capt Andrew Martino	GySgt Jason Serfas
Capt Timothy Cowan	*Capt Benton Mathis III	1stLt Riley Shanahan
*Capt Ryan Creamer	CWO2 William Matthews	Capt Brenna Shea
*Capt Brandon Cruz	Capt Michael Mauch	Capt Andrew Sherman
Capt Rachel Cruz	Capt William Maxwell	Capt Christopher Sinsheimer
CWO2 Natavia Cunningham	Capt Michael McLaughlin	Capt Paul Spalding
Capt Roy Dakroub	Capt Joseph Meli III	Capt Michael Spangler
Capt Jacob Davis	Capt John Merten	*Capt Rebecca Stewart
CWO3 Jonathan Detwiler	CWO2 Jonathan Miranda	*Capt Joshua Story
Capt Jesse DeVries	Capt Endasia Mitchell	*Capt James Taylor
Capt Elizabeth Diller	Capt Mitchell Moore	Capt Nicholas Troy
Capt Cameron Dudeck	Capt Hunter Mortemore	Capt Alexander Tucker
*Capt Christopher Dudley	Capt Murphy Mosley	Capt Brian Tuomi
Capt Joe Eckert	1stLt Alex Mrak	Capt Michael Usoz
*Capt Jackson Fowler	CWO3 William Norris	CWO2 Hassan Veal
1stLt William Franklin	Capt John O'Brien	Capt John Venners
Capt Victoria Friday	Capt Christopher O'Hare	Capt Michael Ventura
1stLt Elias Gavilan	Capt Alexander Ontivero	CWO2 Jose Vitali
Capt Ryan Gettinger	Capt Anthony Patrick	*Capt Fredrick Walker
Capt Bradley Gifford	Capt Austin Paul	Capt John Weisgerber
Capt Ennio Giusti	*Capt Abigail Perdew	CWO2 Cecil Westmoreland
Capt Christopher Glanzmann	*Capt Brooke Peregrin	*Capt Jack Whalen
Capt Benjamin Guray	Capt Austin Pitcher	Capt Lawrence Williams
Capt Samuel Hartman	Capt Trevor Placeway	Capt Gregory Wilson
Capt Evan Hayes	Capt Gregorio Pro	CWO2 Justin Winters
Capt Zachary Henry	Capt Nicholas Quarta	Capt Yuwi Yamashita
Capt Edgar Hernandez	Capt Josiah Ricke	Capt Justin Young
*Capt Nicholas Herrera	*Capt Herbert Riley	
CWO2 Blake Hershiser	Capt Zachary Ritchey	

***Distinguished Graduate**

Expeditionary Warfare School Blended Seminar Program

Class 507/508 Graduates

Capt Alexander Avery	Capt Brandon Johnson	Capt Jonathan Phillips
Capt Timothy Bowman	*Capt Thomas Jones	Capt Dylan Pusher
Capt Lawrence Boyce	CWO3 Eugene Julien	Capt Austin Raposa
Capt Jonathan Carrier	Capt Mateusz Kaczynski	CWO2 Antonio Serna
Capt Christopher Civiello	Capt Cogan Kirchenwitz	Capt Kristopher Shelby
Capt Harrison Clark	Capt Joshua Klingerman	Capt Kimberly Smith
Capt Jacob Crowell	1stLt David Lennon	Capt Preston Snyder
CWO3 Ryan Farish	Capt Andrew Logan	CWO3 Kevin Spooner
Capt Brendan Ferrer Green	CPT Elena Lopez-Berryman	*Capt Juan Villalobos
Capt Nicholas Garcia	Capt Octavio Marquez	Capt Madison Whiting
Capt Byron Granberry	Capt Efrain Melecio	Capt Donald Williams
Capt Russell Harper	Capt Steven Meyer	Capt Justin Woodruff
*Capt Michael Hartley	Capt Matthew Meyers	CWO2 Daniel Worley
Capt Edward Hill	Capt Jared Morrison	Capt Crystal Young
Capt Ryan Hoffman	CWO2 Jacob Nixon	
Capt Christopher Hudson	Capt Kevin O'Connor	

***Distinguished Graduate**

CDET Camp Lejeune Staff

Mr. Marc Riccio, Regional Director

Mr. Jon Bradley, CSC DEP Regional Chief Instructor

Mr. John Krysa, EWS DEP Regional Chief Instructor

Maj. Edison Feisal, EWS BSP Lead Faculty Advisor

Mr. George Benson, EWS BSP Faculty Advisor

Mr. Bill Carroll, EWS BSP Faculty Advisor

Mr. Matt Hall, EWS BSP Faculty Advisor

AY25 Jones Award Recipients

ECDEP - SgtMaj Enrique Gato, USMC

EWSDEP - LtCol Daniel Robnett, USMC

CSCDEP - LtCol Matthew Deffenbaugh, USMC

