

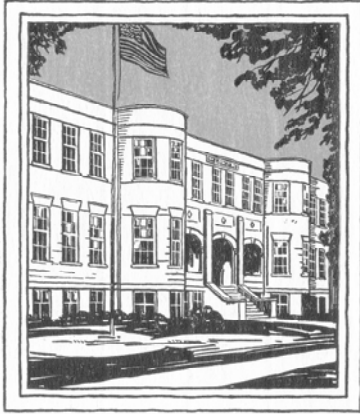
CHAMBERLAIN-HUNT ACADEMY

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CADETLIFE



MAY 2005

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“Recently, the President of the United States placed the Cadets of Chamberlain-Hunt Academy under a full-scale alert, indicating that he may be required to call the Battalion into combat service to aid the tiny, beleaguered island nation of the Republic of Atlantica, located just off the coast in the Gulf of Mexico. Atlantica, of course, shares the island with the aggressive, eastern-styled communist dictatorship of the People’s Socialist Republic of Cortinia. In recent months leading up to the current crisis, the government of Cortinia, in an effort to destabilize the struggling Atlantan democracy, supported, with manpower and material, the notorious pro-Cortinian guerilla movement, the Atlantan Liberation Front (ALF), led by the cruel and elusive ALF Commander, LTC Robert Stinson. Within days of receiving the alert, the Cadets of CHA packed their gear and deployed to Atlantica where, in the space of only three days, the ALF was decisively suppressed and safety and stability restored to Atlantica.”

True? Obviously not! The dramatic regional struggle involving Cortinia, Atlantica and the ALF served as the fictional backdrop for CHA’s year-end military exercise, the CALFEX (combined arms live-fire exercise). For three days, the entire Corps of Cadets deployed to the Wilderness, bivouacked, conducted military patrols throughout the Wilderness against a live opposing force (the ALF, consisting of the members of CHA’s elite Crusaders and led by CHA’s elite Commandant), and performed, on the platoon-level, a full-scale attack on an urban site, using paintball, signal smoke, concertina wire and old-fashioned military audacity and aggression.

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“In all thy ways acknowledge him and he will direct thy paths.” Proverbs 3:6

ALUMNI@CHAMBERLAIN-HUNT


One of our big Summer 2005 goals is completing the huge database project we began this year. Thanks for your patience as we get mailing lists sorted out. Meanwhile, if you know of Alumni (any former Cadet, graduate or not) who is not on our mailing list but should be, please send us their names and addresses. Also, keep in mind our CHA Veterans project: if you or a former Cadet you know served in the US military, please let us know Name, Rank, Branch of Service and year(s) at CHA. Thanks!

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Top: Once captured, Cadet Miller (center) quickly succumbed to the ALF's promises of leisure and switched sides. **Middle:** Crusader Irby takes aim with his paintball gun defending against a raid. Comrades in arms, Cadets Bush, Mims and Garcia, pose during a lull in the fighting. Cadet Garcia (foreground), captive of the ALF, smiles behind the blindfold as he marches to the prison camp. **Bottom:** Crusader Clayton watches the orange signal smoke as the assault on the MOUT site begins. Cadet Simpson stretches his legs and others take a rest at the Compound between exercises.

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CALFEX represents the culmination of the CHA's green-amber-gold military training cycle. Whereas the ECB (Expert Cadet Badge) exercises in the fall were the capstone for the individual skills training that characterized first semester's military training program, the spring CALFEX serves as the capstone for the collective skills training that characterizes second semester's military training program. Cadets are assessed and evaluated on their tactical proficiency, as well as on the intangible, subjective qualities of teamwork, leadership, followership and *esprit de corps*. As important as the assessment was, however, the single most significant objective of the event was for the Cadets to experience something enjoyable. Poison-ivy, ticks and mosquitoes aside, mission accomplished!

The martial nature of CHA's boarding environment is an indispensable vehicle for teaching Cadets the invaluable lessons of collective responsibility, selfless service, brotherhood and camaraderie—all features of the types of relationships the ought to characterize the Kingdom of God. No man is more significant than the group, and no group is more significant than the individual. Both are held, and presented in Scripture (through, for example, the illustration of God's triune nature, where God is exhaustively one and exhaustively three), as equally ultimate.

Every day at Chamberlain-Hunt is a living object lesson of this truth, and it is even more radically present when taught in a field environment, where Cadets, without exception, function as a collective, whether while sleeping in a patrol base, pulling guard at night or participating in a combat patrol. Cadets, of course, are not thinking in metaphysical terms when attacking the ALF or pulling guard, but the foundations of each of these events cannot be accounted for, ultimately, without the Triune God who, as the Psalmist says, "trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle."

Knowledge and Wisdom!

"I learned a lot about military tactics and urban fighting. Going without a shower for three days wasn't nice, but the CALFEX was one of the most fun events I've been a part of at CHA... the MRE's [meals ready to eat] weren't that great."-- Cadet Andrew Thomas

"CALFEX was great...a new experience! This was the first time I'd ever slept in the woods and it wasn't nearly as bad as I thought it would be!"-- Cadet Cleveland Johnson

"Definitely one of the greatest experiences I've had at CHA. Watching out not only for myself but for those around me, and surviving, was tough but unforgettable!"-- Cadet Tony Daily

"The biggest challenge was knowing that, as a member of the ALF, we were outnumbered 10-1, but being able to experience being an asset to the training experiences of other Cadets was something I'll never forget!"-- Cadet Crusader Daniel Edwards, ALF

"Long live the people's revolution!"-- Cadet Joshua Miller (former CHA Cadet turned ALF insurgent)



Top: Cadet Daily keeps a sharp eye out while on patrol. **Bottom:** TAC officers serve a meal to Cadets after a day of battle.