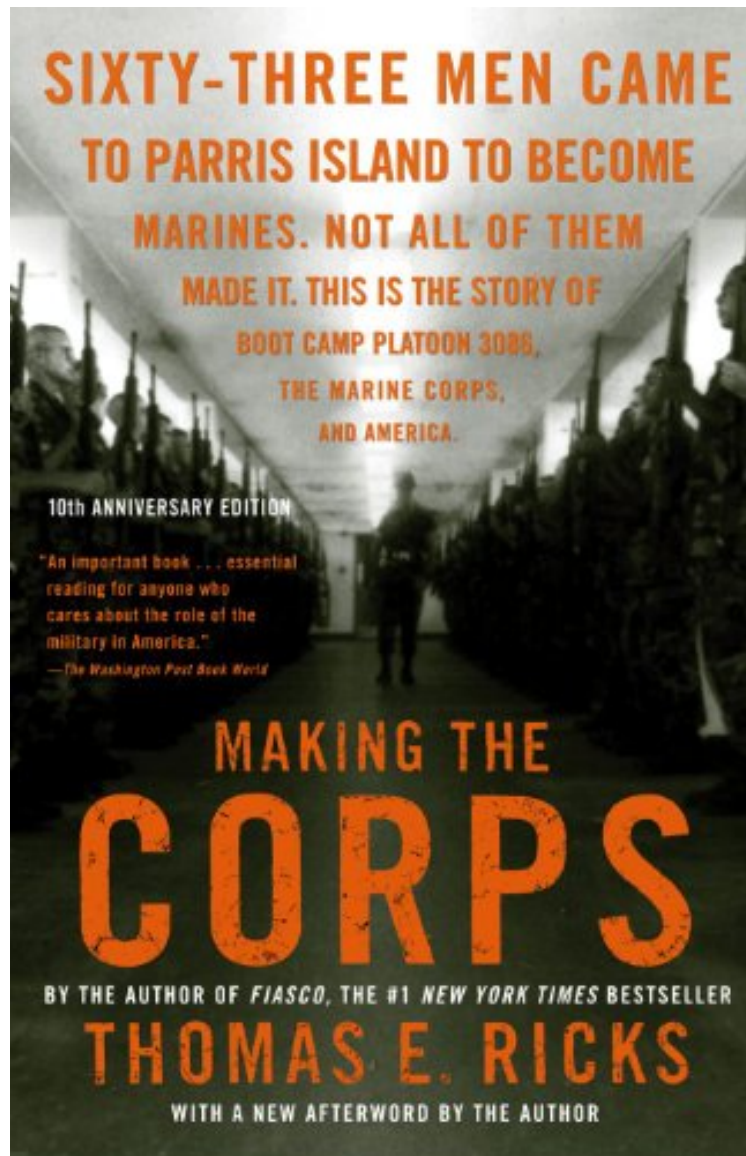


(Get free) Making the Corps (English Edition)

Making the Corps (English Edition)

Von Thomas E. Ricks

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Von Thomas E. Ricks : Making the Corps (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Making the Corps (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The few, the proud...Von FrKurt MessickThomas Ricks' Making the Corps is one of the best books on today's Marine Corps available. The book looks at the Corps from the perspective of following a cohort of recruits through book camp on Parris Island. As the subtitle, one of the longest I have ever seen on a non-academic book (and longer, indeed, than

most of those), boot camp is difficult, but is also reflective of America in general. 'Sixty-three men came to Parris Island to become Marines. Not all of them made it. This is the story of boot camp Platoon 3086, the Marine Corps, and America.' There is a lot in that statement, 'not all of them made it'. Boot camp in most military services has an element of winnowing and removing those unable to work and cope in the military environment. Often this is a matter of mental strength and maturity more than it is a physical inability. Ricks followed the crew of Platoon 3086 very closely. He did not change the names. He did not whitewash the situations. He followed them personally, but also incorporated pieces of information from official logs and follow-up evaluations. For all the mystery that seems to surround the Corps, it is a remarkably open organisation, and in many ways is like a Hollywood personality in search of a camera and the spotlight. Marines don't mind being in the spotlight. On the other hand, Marines strive to work as a team, so the stars of this book are, in reality, not the individuals, but the platoon, the Drill Instructors, and the Marine Corps itself. The story of Platoon 3086 could be repeated over and over. More than one million men and women have gone through Parris Island to become Marines. MCRD San Diego likewise turns out thousands per year. One of the other elements that makes this book impressive for giving insight to the Corps is that, from the lowliest recruit to the Commandant, Marines are in many ways a band of brothers who prize their common bond. The Marine Corps has a lower percentage of officers to enlisted personnel than any other branch - to a very real extent, the enlisted crew run the Corps. From the beginning of boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island, Ricks follows the men as they are driven through swamps and dark dusty roads through the South Carolina coast lands to a place that looks far more like a prison camp than training centre. This is intentional - the Marine Corps starts from the very beginning of the recruit's experience changing the entire outlook on life. The recruit starts becoming a Marine even before he reaches the camp. Rather than bringing the new recruits into the service with an orientation session, Ricks uses the title *Disorientation* for this introduction, and he is largely correct. In the first few days the world of recruits will be turned upside down, and they will become totally dependent upon their Drill Instructors, their inner strength and drive, and each other. The hierarchy is simple. As Ricks says, at Parris Island (and the same is true at MCRD San Diego), the officers think about the training in the weeks ahead, the Drill Instructors think about the days ahead, and the recruits think about the immediate task or event. Training takes place for weeks, and includes physical training (PT), drill and marching, military courtesy and customs, and all the various little disciplines and punishments the Drill Instructors can devise. Few things are done individually - the larger purpose of boot camp for the Marine Corps is to instill a sense of brotherhood and an indoctrination into the culture of the Marines. Ricks compares Marine Corps recruit training with Army training, and shows the contrast with two different Army installations, Fort Jackson and Fort Benning. Fort Jackson is much more like a college campus; even the soldiers at Fort Benning, where the Army does infantry training, look on Jackson as being rather soft. Benning is more like the Corps in that it is segregated (all male), marching and attention is the standard, and physical standards are tough. Ricks notes, however, that more actual training of skills takes place at Benning than at Parris Island. 'They don't train infantrymen at Parris Island,' Col. Johnny Brooks of Benning's infantry brigade states. 'What they do is turn a civilian into a Marine.' Marines go on to the School of Infantry (SOI) after MCRD to become infantrymen. Every Marine learns to shoot to a rather high skill level; the Marine Corps states that 'every Marine is a rifleman', and recruits don't make it through boot camp without acquiring that skill. While this is far from an academic or research text, if one were to go through and collect all the books referenced in the text, and view all of the films (there is much more than films already cited here), one would get a very thorough indoctrination into the spirit and policy of the Marine Corps. Ricks follows several of the Marines (in today's Marine Corps, the men in boot camp are not called Marines until the Crucible; in the Ricks experience, it was not until graduation - which shows the continuing evolution of the Corps) back into 'the world', and follows up as they get new assignments, and, for some, discover that the ideals of Corps values are not lived up to outside of boot camp. Some also realise they no longer have that much in common with former friends and acquaintances. Overall, this is an excellent insight into the culture of the Marines. Specifics of training may change, and the names of the participants certainly change, but the overall culture and ethos remains the same.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Must Read for Would-Be Marine Recruits Von Amy R. Nix I bought this book for motivation...and boy, did I ever get what I paid for. This is the newest full-coverage boot camp book that I've been able to find, and it covers the whole deal - from the successes to the wash-outs. The author tells the whole truth. The reader gets to see the daily details of boot camp by following platoon 3086 from day one all the way into their first year in the Corps. My only disappointment was that the book was written before the Crucible was added to USMC Recruit Training...so this book covers BWT, which no longer exists in quite the same format that platoon 3086 went through, and has only a mere mention or two of the Crucible. There is another book for sale on .com called *Into the Crucible: Making Marines for the 21st Century*. I would recommend that one for those who want to read up on The Crucible. The writing style used in *Making the Corps* was unbelievably easy to read. I read the entire book in one sitting the day that it arrived. I couldn't put it down. I actually felt the frustration and anger from some of the recruits and it made me cry in sections. The author makes the members of Platoon 3086 so real for the reader, that I almost felt like I was there. If you're contemplating joining the Marine Corps...you just have to read this book.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Lesenswert und erstaunlich differenziert Von Parsec Die berhmte

Grundausbildung des United State Marine Corps auf Parris Island ist ein Thema, bei dem viele Legenden und Mythen kursieren und das schon Thema vieler Filme und Bücher war - letztlich dürfte es vor allem diese Ausbildung sein, die das Image des USMC in der Öffentlichkeit prägt. Viele der Bücher und Filme zum Thema haben ein Problem: sie sind häufig ideologisch sehr vorgebelastet - entweder stellt das jeweilige Werk die Grundausbildung die sadistische Hölle, welche nur zum Kadavergehorsam erzieht, oder aber es handelt sich um ein patriotisches Machwerk, welches letztlich alles hochjubelt, was auf Parris Island (oder in San Diego) passiert. *MAKING THE CORPS* ist dem gegenüber erstaunlich differenziert: der Autor begleitet ein Platoon der Marines von den berühmten gelben Fuabdrücken in der ersten Sekunde des Trainings bis hin zur Graduation. Der Autor schildert chronologisch die 13 Wochen der Rekruten, unterteilt in die einzelnen Phasen; hierbei zeigt er auch, welche Grundgedanken und Trainingsinhalte den einzelnen Phasen zugrundeliegen und welche Probleme dabei auftreten. Hierbei werden einzelne Rekruten mit ihrem Background beleuchtet, ebenso wie geschildert wird, was nachher aus ihnen bei den Marines oder im Zivilleben wurde. Gleichzeitig wird auch das Leben und die Einstellung der einzelnen Drill Instructors dokumentiert. Der Autor stellt die einzelnen Marines oder das USMC dabei weder auf ein Podest, noch das er es verdammen würde - ziemlich unverblümt errtert der Autor daher bei aller grundstzlichen Bewunderung vor den Marines und bei aller Aufzählung von Positivem auch, was seiner Ansicht nach an der Grundausbildung falsch, schlecht oder schlichtweg undurchdacht ist, aber auch, weswegen es nicht geändert werden soll oder kann. Hinzu kommt, dass er einen Blick hinter die Kulissen des USMC auf Parris Island ermöglicht und zeigt, dass dies eben auch ein Arbeitsfeld ist, welches von verschiedenen Ansichten und Konflikten geprägt ist - und er vergisst auch nicht zu erläutern, dass die Marines eben in der Realität nicht unbedingt so sind, wie die Rekruten es auf Parris Island nach ihrer Graduation erwarten. Alles in allem ein für den geneigten Leser unbedingt empfehlenswertes Buch, welches die Mechanismen und die Grundgedanken der Grundausbildung der Marines eindringlich, plastisch und sehr menschlich schildert, und dabei immer differenziert bleibt. Der Autor schildert relativ unverblümt pro und contra, und ermöglicht auch einen gründlichen Blick hinter die Kulissen. Insgesamt eine interessante Lektüre.

Kurzbeschreibung The bestselling, compelling insiders account of the Marine Corps from the lives of the men of Platoon 3086 their training at Parris Island, their fierce camaraderie, and the unique code of honor that defines them. The United States Marine Corps, with its proud tradition of excellence in combat, its hallowed rituals, and its unbending code of honor, is part of the fabric of American myth. Making the Corps visits the front lines of boot camp in Parris Island, South Carolina. Here, old values are stripped away and new Marine Corps values are forged. Bestselling author Thomas E. Ricks follows these men from their hometowns, through boot camp, and into their first year as Marines. As three fierce drill instructors fight a battle for the hearts and minds of this unforgettable group of young men, a larger picture emerges, brilliantly painted, of the growing gulf that divides the military from the rest of America. Included in this edition is an all-new afterword from the author that examines the war in Iraq through the lens of the Marines from Platoon 3086, giving readers an on-the-ground view of the conflict from those who know it best. Marines are different: distinct not only from ordinary U.S. citizens but from the ranks of the army, navy, and air force as well. The difference begins with boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, where the history and future of the United States Marine Corps intersect in the training of every new recruit. In *Making the Corps*, Ricks follows a platoon of young men through 11 grueling weeks of boot camp as their drill instructors indoctrinate them into the culture of the Few and the Proud. Many arrive at Parris Island undisciplined and apathetic; they leave as marines. With the end of the cold war, the role of the American military has shifted in emphasis from making war to keeping peace. "The best way to see where the U.S. military is going is to look at the marines today," says Ricks, as the other armed forces have begun to emulate the marine model. To understand Parris Island--a central experience in the life of every marine--is to understand the ethos of the Marine Corps. Ricks examines the recent changes in the Standard Operating Procedures for Recruit Training (the bible of Parris Island), which indicate how the corps is dealing with critical social and political issues like race relations, gender equality, and sexual orientation. *Making the Corps* pierces the USMC's "sis-boom-bah" mythology to help outsiders understand this most esoteric and eccentric of U.S. armed forces. --Tim Hogan
From Kirkus sWall Street Journal Pentagon correspondent Ricks effectively combines a vivid account of the rigorous basic training received by US Marine recruits with commentary on what separates the demanding, disciplined culture of America's military elite from the more permissive culture of its civilian society. The author tracks the 60-odd volunteers who comprised Platoon 3086 at Parris Island in 1995 through the challenging 11-week course known as boot camp. Unlike their counterparts in other branches of the US military, aspiring marines do not train alongside women; nor do they have access to alcohol, automobiles, candy, cigarettes, drugs, or various other diversions dear to the hearts of young American males. Ricks offers anecdotal evidence on what USMC recruits must endure in the way of indoctrination from fearsome (but no longer gratuitously brutal) drill instructors in the deep piney woods where apprentice warriors get their first taste of what combat is like, and in other invariably sweaty venues. He goes on to review the washout rate of 14 percent or so (which thins 3086's ranks to 55 by graduation day), the ongoing debate on

ever-tougher entrance requirements (which probably cost the corps some superior fighting men), and the army's purposefully ``user-friendly" training regimen (which reportedly neither instills esprit nor prepares soldiers to do battle). Covered as well is the risk that alienation could induce cream-of-the-crop troops like marines to take a more forceful role in the governance of the nation they are pledged to protect, if not engage in an outright coup. The author argues that it behooves America's largely oblivious middle and upper classes to take a more direct interest in their military. A revelatory briefing on what sets the USMC apart and the consequences of its superiority during a postCold War era when, for all the talk of peace dividends, the wider world remains an armed and dangerous place. (16 pages photos, maps, not seen) (Radio satellite tour) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.