



# Recruit Graduation

# The Program

26 JULY 1978

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| I.    | BATTALION IS FORMED                                     | COMMANDING OFFICER<br>CAPTAIN PAUL W. MEYER                            |
| II.   | NATIONAL ANTHEM AND POSTING OF<br>COLORS (PLEASE STAND) | EXECUTIVE OFFICER<br>CAPTAIN RICHARD J. COLLINS                        |
| III.  | ARRIVAL OF REVIEWING OFFICIALS                          | TRAINING OFFICER<br>COMMANDER JASON M. BOWEN                           |
| IV.   | INSPECTION OF GRADUATING COMPANY                        | RECRUIT TRAINING OFFICER<br>LIEUTENANT GERALD H. KEMP                  |
| V.    | INVOCATION  | REVIEWING OFFICIAL<br>VICE ADMIRAL JAMES S. GRACEY, USCG<br>COMMANDER, |
| VI.   | REMARKS BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER                       | COAST GUARD PACIFIC AREA<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA                  |
| VII.  | ADDRESS BY THE REVIEWING OFFICIAL                       | GRADUATING COMPANY<br>DELTA - 119                                      |
| VIII. | PRESENTATION OF AWARDS<br>A. INDIVIDUAL<br>B. HONORMAN  | COMPANY COMMANDER<br>BOATSWAIN'S MATE FIRST CLASS<br>MICHAEL P. ZENONE |
| IX.   | BAND AND HONOR GUARD TROOP THE LINE                     | RECRUIT COMPANY COMMANDER<br>ROBERT C. LOHL                            |
| X.    | GRADUATING COMPANY PASSES IN REVIEW                     | HONORMAN<br>ERNIE L. VALLERY   |
| XI.   | BATTALION PASSES IN REVIEW                              | RECRUIT BATTALION COMMANDER<br>DENNIS W. JONES                         |
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## Government Island

Government Island was created in the late 1800's as a result of a dredging project intended to give Alameda and Oakland a sheltered, deep-draft port. During World War One, the land-fill island was leased from the City of Alameda by the Federal Government for the United States Shipping Board. Later, it was used as an equipment depot by the Bureau of Public Roads.

The Coast Guard's history on Government Island began on May 19, 1926, with the establishment of Coast Guard Base 11. In response to the Coast Guard's increasing need for space, Alameda deeded a 15-acre parcel to the Federal Government in 1930. The expansion was due largely to the enforcement of the liquor prohibition laws of the time. In September 1931, the Coast Guard acquired title to the 15-acre tract on Government Island for a permanent base. In 1933, improvements, which included most of the brick buildings, streets, utilities, a new trestle bridge from Oakland, and rebuilding of the existing wharves were completed.

The Coast Guard united with the Lighthouse Service in 1939 and took the first steps toward the development of a training station here by acquiring an additional 35-acre parcel. The station opened for training in 1942, faced with the manpower shortages of World War Two. As many as 500 new recruits a week reported here for training before being sent to Coast Guard ships and stations around the world. By July of 1945, 35,559 recruits had been trained here. At the end of the war, Government Island became a demobilization station for the Coast Guard; in a five month period returned 40,856 men to civilian life.

The Coast Guard's mission on Government Island is not limited to transforming civilians into Coast Guard personnel. Today, in addition to its recruit training facilities, the Training Center is also home for the Reserve Training Schools Branch and the Coast Guard's only Drug Rehabilitation Center.

The hurried pace of the Bay Area often obscures the island, even from many who live nearby. Large military organizations are easily evident while a small organization like the Coast Guard just as easily goes unnoticed. Although both the Coast Guard and Government Island are small, they make significant contributions to the community and the nation.

