

### **Additional Information:**

At any point in their training, Marines are likely to be in one of three communication situations:

- **Garrison**- Expect an opportunity each day to communicate
  - We consider a garrison environment to be any training when the students spend the night in their barracks room.
  - During the day, they may be engaged in any type of training in multiple locations throughout the Quantico area, but you can reasonably expect that they will have an opportunity to be in contact in the evenings when they are complete with training at back at their barracks. As mentioned previously, this unstructured time will likely be used to study, conduct personal hygiene, prepare their gear, etc.
- **Field**- expect multiple days of no communication
  - Marines refer to any night spent out in a training environment as being “in the field”. You can expect to hear this term throughout their military career!
  - Your Marine will not have their cell phone with them when they are in the field. They should communicate this to you very clearly so that you have a clear understanding of the next time they may be available to communicate.
  - Field exercises can last anywhere from 2-10 days, and it is important to acknowledge that any field exercise can be extended or cut short depending on factors like training needs, weather, range availability, etc.
  - Before your Marine’s first field exercise, it is important that they have provided you an emergency point of contact- this is how urgent messages make it to your Marine while they are in the field.
- **Liberty**- available to communicate and potentially meet in person
  - Liberty is the authorized absence of an individual from a place of duty, not chargeable as leave. This typically falls into three categories
    - Overnight liberty- their time is their own from the completion of the day’s events to the start of the next day, however the

expectation is that they spend the night in their barracks room during training.

- Weekend liberty- generally executed from end of day Friday (whenever their commander releases them) until commencement of work Monday.
- Holiday liberty- typically conducted as a 72-hour liberty (three day weekend) or 96-hour liberty (four day weekend).
- For many of our new Marine officers, TBS may be their first experience with “liberty” outside of Officer Candidate School. Their leadership will therefore be deliberate in outlining expected conduct while on liberty, which he or she will need to communicate with you. This may include:
  - Understanding the appropriate leave and liberty orders
  - Leave limits, or the distance that they are allowed to travel from Camp Barrett
  - Restricted areas, or the places they cannot go under any circumstances
- Whether your Marine is a student in the Basic Officer Course or the Warrant Officer Basic Course, they are sure to experience highs and lows in their training. They are going to be engaged in rigorous physical and academic training, meaning their time will be well accounted for. Clear expectations about their availability are therefore critical to both Marines and their families, and the responsibility for communicating this availability to you falls entirely on your Marine.