

Script for AFROTC DET 842 Fall 2023 Combat Dining-In

ANDERSON: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE MAKE YOUR WAY TO YOUR SEATS AND IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES. WE WILL BEGIN MOMENTARILY. THANK YOU.

MC sounds megaphone siren

ANDERSON: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE RISE FOR THE SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, SUNG BY CADET ROSKAMP AND REMAIN STANDING FOR THE INVOCATION GIVEN BY CADET SHREFFLER.

CADET ROSKAMP- Sing National Anthem

SHREFFLER - Provide Invocation

ANDERSON: THANK YOU CADET ROSKAMP FOR THE LOVELY RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND CADET SHREFFLER FOR YOUR INSPIRATIONAL INVOCATION.

ANDERSON: AT THIS TIME, OUR PRESIDENT WILL CALL THE MESS TO ORDER.

SHRECKER: *CADET SHRECKER TAPS GAVEL AND CALLS THE MESS TO ORDER*

SHRECKER: THE AIR FORCE ROTC, DETACHMENT 842 FALL 2024 COMBAT DINING-IN WILL NOW COME TO ORDER.

ANDERSON: PLEASE BE SEATED...

ANDERSON: GOOD AFTERNOON LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I AM CADET ZOE ANDERSON, YOUR MASTER OF CEREMONIES FOR THIS AFTERNOON.

ANDERSON: TODAY, WE CELEBRATE MONTHS OF HARD WORK, CONTINUOUS GROWTH, AND SUCCESS FOR

DETACHMENT 842. AS THIS SEMESTER COMES TO AN END, WE WILL SHARE IN OUR SUCCESSES, WELCOME NEW UNIT MEMBERS, AND BID FAREWELL TO THOSE WHO WILL BE LEAVING US. TODAY, WE WILL LEAVE HERE MOTIVATED TOGETHER, AS THE SPRING SEMESTER QUICKLY APPROACHES.

ANDERSON:

THE CUSTOM OF THE DINING-IN IS STEEPED IN RICH TRADITION, BUT IS NOT EXCLUSIVELY MILITARY. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE DINING-IN BEGAN AS A CUSTOM IN MONASTERIES, WAS THEN ADOPTED BY THE EARLY UNIVERSITIES, AND LATER SPREAD TO MILITARY UNITS WHEN THE OPEN MESS WAS ESTABLISHED. CONTACT WITH THE BRITISH AIR FORCES AND BRITISH DINING-IN DURING WORLD WAR II AND THE “WING DINGS” OF GENERAL HAP ARNOLD, RESULTED IN THE PRACTICE OF DINING-IN IN OUR OWN AIR FORCE. IT WAS RECOGNIZED THAT THOSE OCCASIONS PROVIDED SITUATIONS WHERE CEREMONY, TRADITION, AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP ENHANCED THE MILITARY UNIT, AND COULD MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A GOOD WING AND AN OUTSTANDING ONE. OUR PATH TO THESE INTANGIBLES IS STREWN WITH SOME TIME-HONORED TANGIBLES: FOOD, DRINK, AND GOOD COMPANY.

ANDERSON:

TODAY’S EVENT IS A MODIFICATION TO THE FORMAL DINING-IN; TODAY WE TAKE PART IN A COMBAT DINING-IN. IN THIS LESS FORMAL ATMOSPHERE WE ARE REMINDED OF SOME OF THE KEY PRINCIPLES OF WAR:

SIMPLICITY – YOUR MEAL, THE SEATING, AND THIS SETTING ARE NOT FANCY. ALL DISTRACTIONS ARE STRIPPED AWAY.

SECURITY – YOU MUST EXHIBIT HIGH LEVELS OF SECURITY TO PROTECT YOUR FLIGHT FROM THE ENEMY. YOU MUST REMAIN VIGILANT!

SURPRISE – ACHIEVE SURPRISE IN SEEKING YOUR ENEMY, SO THEY CANNOT REACT EFFECTIVELY.

ANDERSON:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ALLOW ME TO
INTRODUCE OUR DETACHMENT 842 LEADERSHIP
IN ATTENDANCE:

THE COMMANDER OF AIR FORCE ROTC
DETACHMENT 842, COL. GREGORY CYRUS

OUR AFROTC PROGRAM MANAGER MR. AGUSTIN
LLANO

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND TODAY'S
DEPLOYMENT COMMANDER, MAJOR TINA-ROSE
CAVAZOS

OPERATIONS FLIGHT COMMANDER, MAJOR
LANDON PRENDERGAST

OUR EDUCATION OFFICER,
CAPTAIN JENNIFER HURT

RECRUITING OFFICER, CAPTAIN STEFFON
JACKSON

OUR SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER,
TSGT ERREN BARNES

OUR ROTC INSTRUCTOR SSGT RACHEL MANGRU

OUR NCOIC ADMINISTRATION SSGT PAIGE
ARCHER

THE NCOIC CADET ACTIONS SSGT RASHAAD
TAYLOR

THE PHYSICAL TRAINING ADVISOR MR. GREG
GAINS

OUR CADET WING COMMANDER,
C/COL SHELBY SHRECKER.

AND OUR CADET CHIEF OF STAFF,
C/COL JOSHUA DAVIDSON.

ANDERSON: NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE TURN YOUR ATTENTION TO THE POW/MIA TABLE.

ANDERSON: YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THE TABLE SET BEFORE YOU, IN A PLACE OF HONOR. PLEASE LET ME EXPLAIN.

THE MILITARY IS FILLED WITH SYMBOLISM. THIS TABLE IS OUR WAY OF SYMBOLIZING THE FACT THAT MEMBERS OF OUR PROFESSIONS OF ARMS ARE MISSING FROM OUR MIDST. THEY ARE COMMONLY CALLED PRISONERS OF WAR OR MISSING IN ACTION. WE CALL THEM OUR 'BROTHERS & SISTERS'. THEY ARE UNABLE TO BE WITH US THIS AFTERNOON AND SO WE REMEMBER THEM WITH THIS TRADITION

A HAT REPRESENTING THE FOUR BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY; AIR FORCE, // ARMY, // NAVY // AND MARINE CORPS // WILL PORTRAY THOSE PERSONNEL AND THEIR SACRIFICES."

"THE TABLE CLOTH IS WHITE – SYMBOLIZING THE PURITY OF THEIR INTENTIONS TO RESPOND TO THEIR COUNTRY'S CALL TO ARMS. SO THAT THEIR CHILDREN COULD REMAIN FREE. // REMEMBER." //

"THE LONE CANDLE SYMBOLIZES THE FRAILTY OF A PRISONER ALONE TRYING TO STAND UP AGAINST THEIR OPPRESSORS. // REMEMBER." //

"THE BLACK RIBBON ON THE CANDLE REMINDS US OF THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE COMING HOME. //REMEMBER//".

"THE SINGLE ROSE REMINDS US OF THE LOVED ONES AND FAMILIES OF OUR COMRADES IN ARMS WHO KEEP FAITH AND AWAIT THEIR RETURN. //REMEMBER//."

“THE YELLOW RIBBON TIED SO PROMINENTLY ON THE VASE SYMBOLIZES THE RIBBON THAT IS WORN BY THOUSANDS WHO AWAIT THEIR RETURN. // REMEMBER.”//

“A SLICE OF LEMON IS ON THE BREAD PLATE TO REMIND US OF THEIR BITTER FATE. // REMEMBER.”//

“THERE IS SALT UPON THE PLATE – // SYMBOLIC OF THE FAMILIES’ TEARS AS THEY WAIT. // REMEMBER.”//

“THE GLASS// IS INVERTED, THEY CANNOT TOAST WITH US THIS EVENING. // REMEMBER.”//

“THE CHAIR –// THE CHAIR IS EMPTY – THEY ARE NOT HERE, BUT IT IS SAVED FOR THEIR HOPED RETURN. // REMEMBER.”//

“AS WE LOOK UPON THIS EMPTY TABLE, DO NOT REMEMBER GHOSTS FROM THE PAST, REMEMBER OUR COMRADES. REMEMBER THOSE WHOM WE DEPENDED ON IN BATTLE AS THEY DEPEND ON US TO BRING THEM HOME. REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS, THEY ARE THE ONES WE LOVE WHO LOVE LIFE AND FREEDOM AS WE DO. THEY WILL REMEMBER WHAT WE DO. PLEASE HONOR AND REMEMBER THEM. // (quietly) REMEMBER.”

ANDERSON:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE STAND WITH YOUR GLASSES CHARGED AS WE PREPARE FOR THE TRADITIONAL TOASTS.

WITH FEELING: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

ALL:

TO THE COLORS!

MAJOR CAVAZOS:

TO THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF!

ALL:

TO THE PRESIDENT!

MAJOR PRENDERGAST: TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE!

ALL: TO THE CHIEF!

CAPTAIN HURT: TO THE CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT OF THE AIR
FORCE!

ALL: HEAR, HEAR!

CADET SHRECKER: TO THE COMMANDER OF AIR EDUCATION AND
TRAINING COMMAND!

ALL: HEAR, HEAR!

CADET DAVIDSON: TO THE COMMANDER OF AIR FORCE ROTC!

ALL: HEAR, HEAR!

ANDERSON: OUR FINAL TOAST THIS AFTERNOON IS DONE IN
SILENCE TO HONOR OUR FALLEN COMRADES.

HEAD TABLE: "TO OUR FALLEN COMRADES"

ALL: *TOAST SILENTLY*

ANDERSON: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, LUNCH WILL NOW BE
SERVED. ALPHA FLIGHT WILL GO FIRST
FOLLOWED BY THE REST IN AN ORDERLY
FASHION THEN ALL POC. YOU WILL HAVE 40
MINUTES TO EAT. I WILL BE YOUR TIMEHACK.
READY, BEGIN!

*ONCE EVERYONE IS SEATED WITH FOOD, AFTER
ABOUT 7-8 MINUTES START WITH THE GROG*

SHRECKER: CADET DAVIDSON, POINT OF ORDER! WHAT IS
THAT OBJECT IN THE CENTER OF THE MESS?

DAVIDSON: I'M GLAD YOU ASKED, MA'AM. 'TIS A GROG! A
BOWL THAT WILL BE FILLED WITH FOUL FLUIDS.
THEY ARE A PENANCE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE
VIOLATED THE RULES OF THE MESS. MISS
PRESIDENT, IN PREPARATION FOR THE OPENING

OF THE GROG, OUR FLIGHTS HAVE BROUGHT A LITTLE SOMETHING TO ADD TO THE PUNCH. ALPHA THROUGH ZULU , PLUS POC and COMMAND STAFF PUT YOUR CREATIVITY TO THE TEST, FOR WE WILL SEE WHO IS THE BEST. AS I CALL EACH FLIGHT, PLEASE COME FORWARD AND ADD YOUR MIX.

Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta | Whiskey, X-Ray, Yankee, Zulu , AS300s, AS400s, Command Staff PRESENTS THEIR RHYME AND ADDS THEIR INGREDIENT TO THE GROG.

ANDERSON: MISS PRESIDENT, I BELIEVE THE GROG IS READY. PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO OPEN IT, MA'AM?

SHRECKER: *CADET SHRECKER TAPS GAVEL AND OPENS THE GROG*

SHRECKER: THE GROG IS NOW OPEN!

ANDERSON: VIOLATORS BEWARE! THE RULES OF THE MESS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED. BUT I'M CERTAIN THERE ARE THOSE THAT DIDN'T GET THE WORD. LET THEM NOW BE RECOGNIZED AND TAKE THEIR JOG TO THE GROG... MISS PRESIDENT, WOULD YOU DO US THE HONOR OF SELECTING OUR FIRST VIOLATOR?

SHRECKER: *SELECTS A CADET OF HER CHOOSING...*

GROG WILL NOT BE OPEN ANY LONGER THAN 30 MINUTES!

ANDERSON: MISS PRESIDENT, VIOLATIONS ARE TOO RAMPANT. YET, I FEEL ENOUGH HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH, JUSTICE HAS BEEN SERVED, AND THE DECORUM OF THE MESS HAS BEEN RESTORED. WITH THE TAP OF YOUR GAVEL, THE GROG WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE AFTERNOON.

SHRECKER: *CADET HARRIS TAPS GAVEL AND CLOSES THE GROG.*

SHRECKER: THE GROG IS NOW CLOSED!

ANDERSON: WE WOULD NOW LIKE TO INVITE OUR PRESIDENT
TO MAKE SOME REMARKS.

CADET HARRIS BEGINS REMARKS...

FLIGHT ACTIVITIES