



# Basic Training Information

## A/1-19<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery



September 26th, 2012 CLASS 69-12

### **FROM THE COMMANDER:**

Greetings! I am Captain Daniel A. Nesdahl, your Soldier's Battery Commander during his/her Initial Entry Training in the United States Army. Your Soldier arrived safely at Fort Sill and has begun basic combat training in Alpha Battery.

During the nine week training period, your Soldier will learn the basic skills that are required to survive and win on today's modern battlefield. The training will be very strenuous and demanding, but the tasks performed will help each Soldier develop the discipline and self-confidence necessary to be a successful Soldier in today's Army.

I want you to know that the cadre who will be training your Soldier are a very dedicated group of professionals who are genuinely concerned about the health, welfare and training of each Soldier. We consider your Soldier to be the

Army's most important asset and I will personally ensure that we make your Soldier's basic training experience both challenging and rewarding.

### **YOU WILL HEAR FROM YOUR SOLDIER SOON!**

You should have received a phone call from your Soldier by now. All Soldiers are given the opportunity to call home within the first 72 hours of arriving at Fort Sill, followed by at least one call after every phase change. However, Soldiers can lose this privilege for poor performance or misconduct.

I ask that you not attempt to contact your Soldier by phone. If there is anything that you should be concerned with regarding the health and welfare of your Soldier, I will personally let you know with an immediate phone call. I will be posting blog updates on our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/edit/?id=159096183642#!/pages/Lawton/A1-19-FA-434-FA-BDE/159096183642>

You can also see updated newsletters and photos of your Soldiers' training at our unit website:

<http://sill-www.army.mil/434/1-19/1-19a.html>

### **YOUR SOLDIER WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Whether or not this is your Soldier's first time away from home, I am certain that he/she will miss you a great deal. I strongly encourage you to write at every opportunity, and you can be assured that your Soldier will have ample time to write you, as well. When writing your Soldier, use the following address:

**NAME, A 1/19 FA,  
PLT#  
5970 SOUTH  
BOUNDARY RD  
FORT SILL, OK  
73503-5001**

Packages are not generally necessary because your Soldier is able to buy additional items here at our local Post Exchange. However, if you choose to send your Soldier a package, please observe the following guidelines:

- ✓ No alcohol or products containing alcohol, tobacco, or narcotics
- ✓ No weapons
- ✓ No radios, TVs, cell phones, cameras, or other electronic devices
- ✓ No pornographic or morally questionable materials
- ✓ No magazines
- ✓ No food items
- ✓ When in doubt, just send letters

**WHAT CAN I DO TO ASSIST MY SOLDIER DURING TRAINING?**

The best thing you can do is to write positive letters. Soldiers look forward to daily mail call.

**HOW ARE THEY TREATING MY SOLDIER?**

Relax, your soldier is not reliving those first 30 minutes of the movie Full Metal Jacket. Today's soldiers are treated fairly, firmly, and with dignity and respect. Abuse of any kind is not tolerated. Drill Sergeants are selected from among the best Non-commissioned Officers in the Army, and are highly qualified to train recruits.



**MAY MY SOLDIER ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES?**

Yes. Soldiers have the opportunity to attend weekly religious services of various denominations. They are allowed to attend a religious service and religious education classes as available through the Chaplain's office. Soldiers are also permitted to seek counseling from an Army Chaplain who is on call 24 hours a day.

**WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SOLDIER FAILS A PORTION OF BASIC TRAINING?**

If your Soldier misses or fails a task required for graduation, he will be given another opportunity to make up the training. If a Soldier still fails to meet the requirement, I will decide whether or not that Soldier will graduate.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES**

Should an emergency arise, the best means of notifying your Soldier is through your local American Red Cross. The field office in your area will contact the Lawton, Oklahoma field office, who will contact me. In extreme cases, such as serious injury or

death affecting immediate family members, an emergency leave of absence may be granted. Other leaves of absence during training are not normally authorized.

**WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SOLDIER IS INJURED DURING TRAINING?**

Should any injury occur, your Soldier will receive appropriate medical attention from Fort Sill's professional medical staff. Additionally, Drill Sergeants are Combat Lifesaver qualified and carry medical aid kits.

**GRADUATION INFORMATION**

Provided your Soldier meets all basic training requirements, your Soldier will graduate at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, November 30th at McMahon Auditorium in Lawton. (Location is subject to change, you will be notified in a timely manner)

After graduation, your Soldier will report to their next duty station for Advanced Individual Training. In a few weeks, we will be posting another letter on Facebook with information concerning your Soldier's graduation.

## Drill Sergeant Creed

Please know that there will be some Soldiers who will not graduate due to various reasons. However we recommend that you make your reservations for lodging in advance.

### **POINTS OF CONTACT**

If we can be of assistance to you in any matter relating to your Soldier, please feel free to contact any of the following people by phone, mail, or email:

Battery Commander  
***Daniel A. Nesdahl***



Phone:  
(580) 442-1408

e-mail:  
[daniel.a.nesdahl.mil@mail.mil](mailto:daniel.a.nesdahl.mil@mail.mil)

Battery First Sergeant  
***Jason T. Gibson***



Phone:  
(580) 442-1409

e-mail:  
[jason.t.gibson.mil@mail.mil](mailto:jason.t.gibson.mil@mail.mil)

**I am a Drill Sergeant.**

**I will assist each individual in their efforts to become a highly motivated, well-disciplined, physically and mentally fit soldier, capable of defeating any enemy on today's modern battlefield.**

**I will instill pride in all I train. Pride in self, in the Army, and in country.**

**I will insist that each soldier meets and maintains the Army standards of military bearing and courtesy, consistent with the highest traditions of the United States Army.**

**I will lead by example, never requiring a soldier to attempt any task I would not do myself.**

**But First, Last and Always, I am an American Soldier, sworn to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic.**

**I am a Drill Sergeant.**

