



Basic Training Information

C/1-19th Field Artillery



19TH Sept – 21ST Nov 2012

CLASS 67-12

FROM THE COMMANDER:

Greetings! I am Captain John O'Brien, your Soldier's Battery Commander during Initial Entry Training in the United States Army. Your Soldier arrived safely at Fort Sill and will begin basic combat training in my unit.

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 is strenuous and demanding, but the tasks performed help your Soldier develop the discipline, skills and confidence necessary to be a successful Soldier and win our nation's battles.

I want you to know that the cadre in charge of training are a very dedicated group of professionals who are genuinely concerned about the health, welfare, and training of your 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!

By now, you should have already received a phone call from your Soldier. All Soldiers are given the opportunity to call home within the first 72 hours of Basic Combat Training. Afterwards, your Soldier will occasionally be afforded the privilege to utilize the telephone (usually Sunday afternoons following their third week of training); however, your Soldier may have this privilege revoked 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, we will let you know as soon as possible.

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, in turn, 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.

YOUR SOLDIER WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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

**PVT Soldier's Name + (last four of Social Security Number)
Battery C, 1st Battalion, 19th Field Artillery, PLT (#) (Your Soldier will tell you what platoon),
(Class 67-12)
5970 South Boundary Road
Fort Sill, OK 73503.**

Packages are generally not permitted because your soldier can buy everything he/she needs 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, TV's, cameras, or other electronic devices
- No pornographic or morally questionable materials
- No magazines
- No food items.
- WHEN IN DOUBT- JUST SEND LETTERS!

It can take the mail you send your Soldier longer to arrive than the mail they send you. If your Soldier states they have not gotten any letters, check the address and keep writing. The battery delivers the mail as soon as we receive it, and we do **NOT** hold or make Soldiers "earn" their mail.

WHAT CAN I DO TO ASSIST MY SOLDIER DURING TRAINING?

The best thing you can do is to write as many encouraging letters as possible, and as often as possible. Soldiers look forward to daily mail call. Let them know how proud you are and how you believe in their ability to complete the rigorous training.

MAY MY SOLDIER ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES?

Yes, your Soldier has the opportunity to attend weekly religious services of various denominations. Your Soldier is permitted to seek counseling from an Army Chaplain who is on call 24 hours a day.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SOLDIER IS INJURED DURING TRAINING?

Should any injury occur, appropriate medical attention from FT. Sill's large professional medical staff, at state of the art medical facilities, will be provided to your Soldier. Additionally, Drill Sergeants are Combat Lifesaver qualified and carry medical aid kits. Injuries that prevent Soldiers from graduating will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If your Soldier is injured during training and cannot complete the remaining training requirements, he /she will be transferred to the Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Program (PTRP) to recover. Once the Soldier recovers he/she will be sent to another unit to resume the portion of missed training.

SHIPPING TO ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING (AIT)

Your Soldier will ship to their next duty station via government-provided transportation. They usually schedule transportation for your Soldier to depart early on the day following graduation.

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

If your Soldier fails to meet any of the graduation requirements, an effort will be made for the Soldier to retake that portion. In the event the Soldier cannot pass or retake the portion we will consider moving your Soldier to another unit to complete the remaining training requirements or discharging them from the US Army. Every effort will be made to ensure your Soldier is treated fairly and has an opportunity to be successful in Basic Combat Training.

WHEN CAN I SEE MY SOLDIER? (Family Day is Nov 20th, Graduation is Nov 21st)

We are unable to allow families to visit their Soldiers during training. However, the day prior to their graduation we are able to allow graduating Soldiers a pass to visit with their families. This day is referred to as Family Day and will be on the morning of the 20th of Nov. You will also be able to attend the graduation ceremonies the following day on Nov 21st. If at all possible please come to show your support and pride in your Soldier. When planning travel, Lawton, Oklahoma is the nearest town to FT Sill (<http://www.lawtonfortsillchamber.com>). More details on these two special days will become available on our website.

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: CPT O'Brien 580-442-1426
Email: john.d.obrien26.mil@mail.mil

Battery 1SG: 1SG Rankins 580-442-1424
Email: derrick.d.rankins.mil@mail.mil

Battery Facebook page:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lawton-OK/C1-19-FA/140373475974940>

Battery Webpage: <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/1-19/1-19c.html>