



Graduation Information

E/1-19th Field Artillery



Class# 51-16 Graduation date: 15 JULY 2016

FROM THE COMMANDER:

Hello again to the Families of Echo Battery! The Soldiers of Echo Battery are proving their mettle every day. They are motivated, fit, knowledgeable, and ready to graduate! Before they do, however, there are still a few more weeks of rigorous mandatory training.

This is the time of the cycle when Families are anxious to make their travel plans to see their Soldier graduate. This newsletter will provide you with information you need in order to make your travel arrangements, including information on hotels, airlines, and taxis. A map is also included. If you Google search the address below in maps, you will locate the 1-19th FA Battalion. The large parking lot to the left (west) of the building is where you will park when at the Battalion. Echo Battery is located at the TOP, Right Corner (northeast). The two buildings by themselves, it is the one on the right.

Birtz Hall

**5970 S Boundary Rd
Lawton, OK 73503**

Until you have received confirmation from your Soldier, we strongly suggest that you not make any travel arrangements that cannot be changed.

Your Soldier has been instructed to contact you to confirm their eligibility.

The graduation date is: Friday, Jul 15th at the **Cache Creek Chapel on Fort Sill at 10am. The address is:** 6043 Rothwell St., Fort Sill, OK 73503

A brief formation will be held in the Echo Battery area following graduation. This will allow you time to talk to the Drill Sergeants and Cadre, while your Soldier prepares to go on pass.

While you are here at Fort Sill, we ask that you help us to preserve our training environment. Please do not smoke or use inappropriate language in or around the training area. Please wear appropriate attire; there is no dress code, but vulgar or distasteful slogans or exposures are unacceptable.

Finally, I consider you my personal guests during your stay here at Fort Sill. If there is anything I can do to accommodate you while you are here, please let me

know. Please feel free to write or call if you have any questions (contact information is on page 2). The office is open 24 hours a day.

GRADUATION WEEK!!!

Graduation week will be very busy for your Soldier; however, we will be granting passes to the Soldiers. Soldiers who are in a **GRADUATING STATUS** will be authorized local passes in the Lawton/Ft Sill area. Soldiers who **are not** in a graduating status may be granted **on-post or 434th FA Brigade Area** passes on a case-by-case basis. Please note that a pass is a privilege that can be **revoked** if a Soldier is involved in any misconduct. This only happens rarely, but I just wanted to inform you of the policy so there are no surprises.

Family Day Thu, Jul 14th

The first Family oriented-event for graduation week is the Family Day at the **Echo Battery's Drill Pad at 10:00.**

The accomplishments of the Soldiers over the past 10 weeks will be recognized. Following this, I will highlight the pass policy and the schedule for Family

Day and Graduation. Immediately thereafter, some of the Soldiers of Echo Battery will perform a demonstration to highlight their 10 week training here at Ft. Sill. Additionally, during this time, pictures, DVDs, Battery t-shirts, and refreshments will be offered by our Family Readiness Group for donations.

During the Family Day activities, we will hold a brief formation where we will recognize some Soldiers for outstanding performance during the cycle. Upon conclusion, the Soldiers will be released on "pass" in the Lawton/ Fort Sill area. **I will inform you on Family Day when Soldiers must return back to the battery**

Graduation Day,
Fri, Jul 15th

Graduation ceremonies will begin at **10:00 pm, at the Cache Creek Chapel.** During the graduation ceremony, please feel free to take pictures of your Soldier. The graduating class will be seated together and will not have the opportunity to socialize at this time. Immediately following the ceremony, we will host another brief formation at the Battery Area. This will give you a chance to see other Family Members and talk with the Drill Sergeants and Cadre. Following the formation, the Soldiers will be released for another pass. Again, **I will inform you on when**

Soldiers must return back to the battery.

****Please note:** Some Soldiers may ship out to AIT that afternoon. Additionally, Soldiers who are staying at Ft. Sill for AIT (13/14 series MOS) will be reporting to **1-78th FA** or **30th ADA** Friday afternoon. They will have to in-process into AIT. I do not know if they are granted passes throughout the weekend (not overnight) if they still have family members present in the local community, if so, this pass will come from 1-78th FA or 30th ADA.

Friday, and beyond...

Most Soldiers will be leaving Fort Sill early on **Jul 16th.** Those Soldiers who have later departure times may be granted a **BDE area** pass on a case-by-case basis, **dependent upon their departure schedule.** Again, please check with your Soldier to confirm his departure date before making definite plans.

Photography on Post
It is ok to photograph and videotape graduation activities, however this permission does not extend to the rest of Fort Sill. Photography is also allowed of historical exhibits at the Fort Sill Museum, including those which are outdoors, but not of nearby family quarters and office buildings.

POINTS OF CONTACT

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the unit:

 <p><u>Battery Commander</u> Captain Redmond <i>Phone:</i> (580) 442-1419 <i>E-mail:</i> grant.j.redmond.mil@mail.mil <u>1</u></p>
 <p><u>Battery First Sergeant</u> 1SG Mclauchlin <i>Phone:</i> (580) 442-1440 <i>E-mail:</i> robert.f.mclauchlin.mil@mail.mil</p>

or write to:

Commander E Battery, 1-19 th FA 5970 South Boundary Rd Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503-6204

We are here to train your Soldier and assist you in any way possible; please do not hesitate to let us know if we can be of any assistance.

Access to Ft Sill Military Reservation

Gate Passes: There have been recent changes to access to Ft. Sill. A pass request form will be sent home for you to fill out and send to the Visitor's Center for verification. Do not send them to the Battery. We are prohibited from handling personal information. A pass will be mailed home to the families that must be filled out. All persons of age will need a current

photo I.D. All persons of age should bring a current photo I.D. and/or driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance if asked to provide at the gates. If you are driving a rental vehicle, you will also need to provide a copy of your rental agreement. You must have this letter to present to the gate guards in order to facilitate access to the installation. Please be aware of the REAL ID Act of 2005. 5 states require other forms of identification with a driver's license.

Vehicle Searches: All civilian and military personnel entering Fort Sill must present a valid license at the gate. Please take into consideration that **all vehicles** are subject to being searched by the Fort Sill police based on the National Threat Level determined by the Department of Homeland Security.

**Note:*
Fort Sill Military Installation and the State of Oklahoma, mandate the wearing of seatbelts at all times while operating a vehicle. Additionally, the use of cellular phones while **driving** on Fort Sill is strictly prohibited. Passengers may use cell phones; however, **drivers may only use cell phones with the aid of "hands-free" or "speaker-phone" devices.** The Fort Sill police strictly enforce this rule for the safety of our

installation.

Army Values

Loyalty:

Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, and other Soldiers.

Duty:

Fulfill your obligations.

Respect:

Treat people as they should be treated.

Selfless Service:

Put the welfare of the Nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own.

Honor:

Live up to all the Army Values.

Integrity:

Do what's right, legally and morally.

Personal Courage:

Face fear, danger, or adversity (Physical and moral).

Drill Sergeant Creed

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.

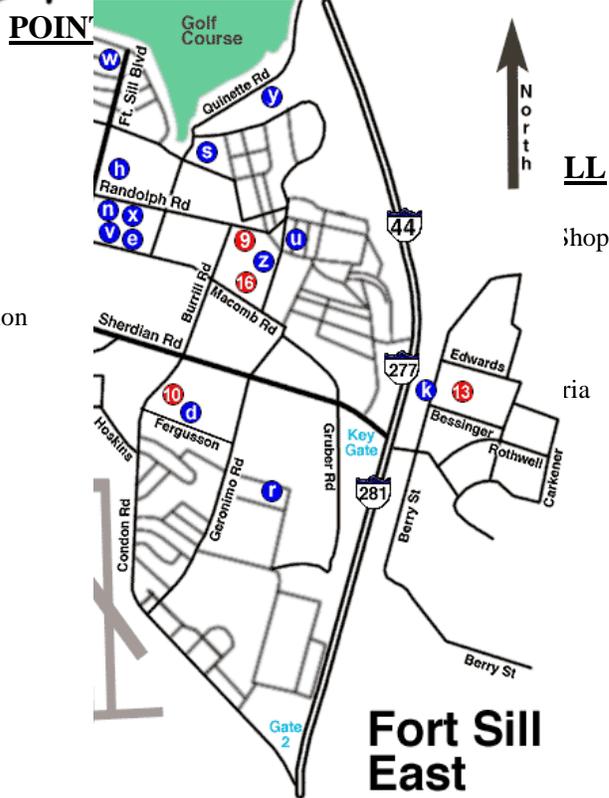
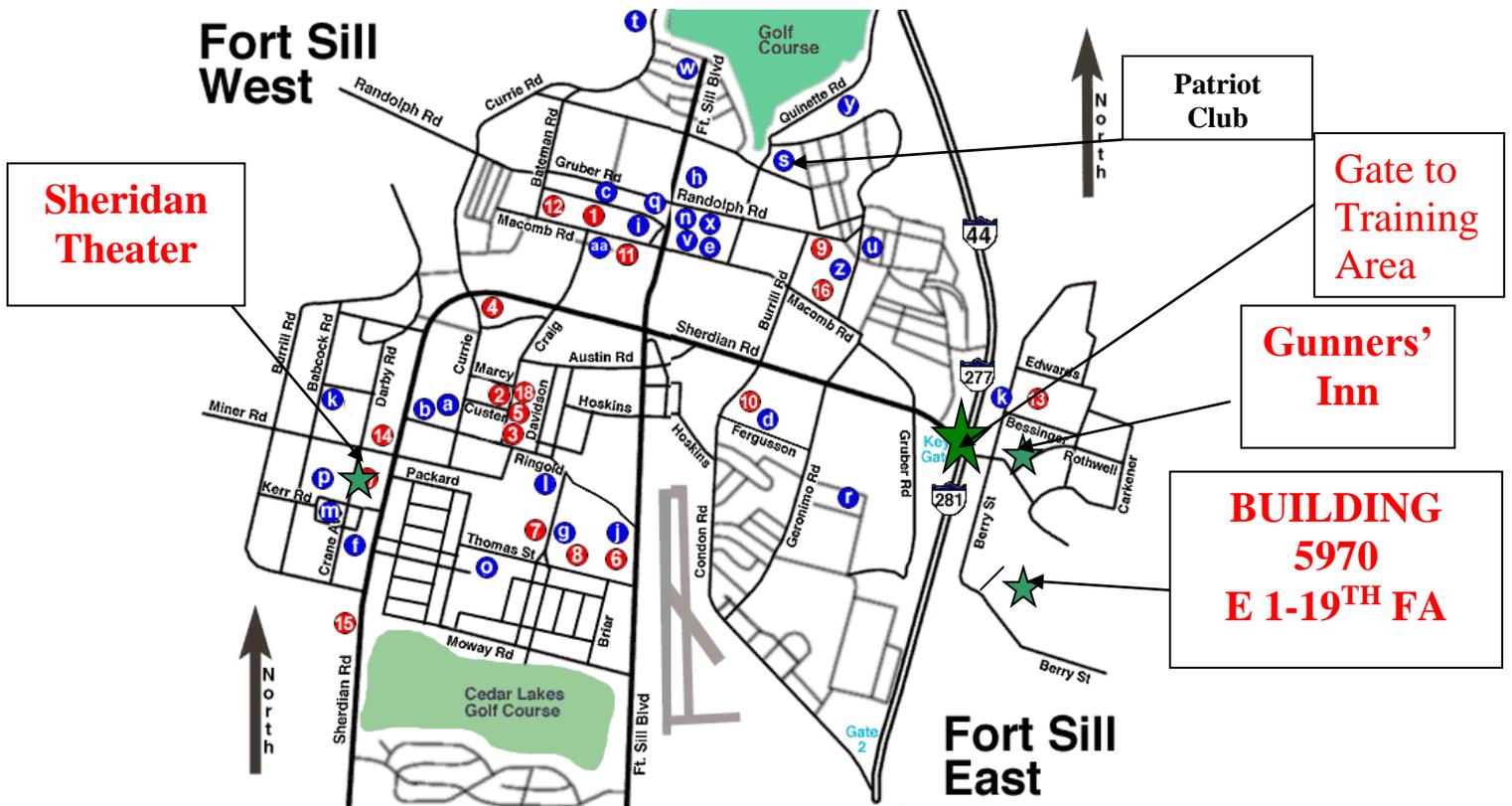
I will instill pride in all I train. Pride in self, in the Army, and in country.

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.



EAST FORT SILL

- 1. Exchange Mall
- 2. Administration
- 3. Barber Shop
- 4. Burger King
- 5. Artillery Bowl PX
- 6. Fort Sill Blvd Shoppette/ Gas Station
- 7. Hospital PX
- 8. Laundromat
- 11. MCSS/ Alterations
- 12. PXtra
- 14. Sheridan Road Car Care Center
- 15. Sheridan Road Shoppette/ Gas
- 17. Theater - (Schedule)
- 18. Unit Photo
- a. Arts & Crafts Center
- b. Auto Craft Center
- c. Bank
- f. Education Center
- g. Child Development Center
- i. Commissary
- j. Credit Union
- l. Fitness Center
- m. Gym/ Goldner
- o. Hospital
- p. Impact Zone
- q. Library
- t. Outdoor Adventure Center