



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Delta Battery, 1ST BATTALION, 40TH FIELD ARTILLERY
6050 NE Rothwell Street
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

9 August 2012

Commander, Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 40th Field Artillery

Dear Friends and Family Members,

Greetings from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the home of the Field Artillery. My name is Captain Zachary S. Quintana and I am the commander of the Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 40th Field Artillery Regiment. I am writing to inform you your Soldier has arrived safely and begun Basic Combat Training here in the 434 Field Artillery Brigade, United States Army Training Center.

We are extremely proud that your Soldier has volunteered to join a time honored profession of service to our Nation in the Army. The Army is fortunate to have extremely well qualified, patriotic, and highly motivated individuals who have chosen to join our team. Over the next nine weeks your Soldier will begin the transformation from a civilian to a Soldier in the United States Army. Your Soldier will learn the basic Soldier skills that are required to fight and win on today's modern battlefield. The training will be strenuous and demanding. The tasks your Soldier will perform develops the discipline and self-confidence necessary to be a successful Soldier in today's Army. Your Soldier will conduct physical training daily to build physical strength and conditioning and also instill teamwork, pride and enthusiasm in themselves and their unit. Your Soldier will learn in great detail military customs, courtesies, and traditions as well as policies and procedures on how Soldiers conduct themselves as members of the military team. Additionally, they will learn how to engage the enemy with a rifle, learn how to care for their buddy using first aid, learn how to navigate with a map and a compass, all the while immersed in an environment of the Seven Army Values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage; it is these values that shape who and what we are as Soldiers and warriors.

The cadre and Drill Sergeants who will be training your Soldier are a very dedicated group of professionals, genuinely concerned about the health, welfare, and training of each Soldier. We consider our Soldiers to be the most important asset of the Army's future.

Your Soldier had the opportunity to call home during the first week of Basic Combat Training but phone privileges will be extremely limited for the next few weeks. Later in training your Soldier will have the opportunity to use the phone on weekends, primarily Sunday afternoons. I do encourage you to write to your Soldier. A little bit of encouragement from home goes a long way in keeping the Soldier engaged and motivated. While packages are allowed please do not send magazines, weapons/knives, or other "contraband" items (soda, electronics, tobacco products, etc...). Send mail to:

PVT (your soldier's name)
6050 NE Rothwell Street
40th FA BN, BTRY D, PLT _____
Fort Sill, OK 73503-6204

I highly encourage you to attend the Family Day activities on 27 September 2012 at 9:00 a.m., and Graduation on 28 September 2012 at 10:00 a.m. We will send out a detailed graduation information packet with maps, times, and locations by week five of your Soldiers' training. You can also find information about Ft. Sill and the Lawton area at the Chamber of Commerce website: <http://www.lawtonfortsillchamber.com/index.php?pr=Lodging> . There is also great information on the 434th FA BDE website at: <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/index.htm> . Family and friends will have the opportunity to spend time with their Soldier after both Family Day and Graduation so please plan to spend a couple extra days in the local area. And for those Soldiers returning to home after training (generally Reserve or National Guard) and for Soldiers going to Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Sam Houston, TX, Fort Leonard Wood, MO, or Sheppard AFB, TX, there is the opportunity for the Soldiers to travel with family to those locations. Soldiers must request this option not less than three weeks before graduation. If the Soldier doesn't meet this time frame, I may not grant the request. More details will be forthcoming.

Please do not hesitate to contact the battery with any concerns regarding your Soldier. The battery commander is *CPT Zachary Quintana* and the First Sergeant is *1SG Samuel Esquivel* and their telephone number is (580) 442-1221/5886. If a true emergency arises at home...i.e. serious injury, illness, or worse, of a family member (spouse, parent, in-law, sibling, or child) please call the American Red Cross (877) 272-7337 in order to quickly get the message to the unit and the Soldier. *Finally, we're on Facebook; search for* http://www.facebook.com/pages/Fort-Sill-Ok/Delta-Battery-1st-BN-40th-FA/142431989105177?v=app_2373072738&ref=sgm#!/pages/Fort-Sill-Ok/Delta-Battery-1st-BN-40th-FA/142431989105177?v=wall

I look forward to meeting you and hope you are able to attend your Soldier's graduation. Thank you for the support of your Soldier!

ALL FOR ONE!!!

ZACHARY S. QUINTANA
Captain, Field Artillery
Commanding