



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
BRAVO BATTERY, 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION, 79<sup>TH</sup> FIELD ARTILLERY  
6007 ROTHWELL ROAD  
FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503-5000

October 20, 2016

Commander, Bravo Battery 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 79th Field Artillery

Dear Family and Friends of Bravo Battery,

The Soldiers of Bravo Battery are proving their toughness every day. They are motivated, fit, knowledgeable, and ready to graduate! Before they do, however, there are still a couple more weeks of rigorous training.

This is the time of the cycle when families are anxious to make their travel plans to see their Soldier graduate. This letter will provide you with useful information in order to make your travel plans. You may want to **consider not making travel purchases until you have heard from your Soldier that they will graduate. I will ensure your Soldier contacts you on the day they have completed all graduation requirements and are eligible to graduate.** When you do make your travel plans, please keep in mind travel time from the airports; approximately 1.5 hours from Oklahoma City and 20 minutes from Lawton Regional Airport.

While you are here, we ask that you help preserve historical Fort Sill. Please wear appropriate attire. There is no dress code, but vulgar or distasteful slogans or exposures are not acceptable for these family events. All civilians entering Fort Sill must present their **VISITOR PASS** and a valid driver's license at the gate. **Family members who's driver's licenses or state IDs were issued in Illinois, Washington, Missouri, America Samoa, and Minnesota must present a second form of ID which includes but not limited to a recent utility bill, a picture ID, birth certificate, ect.** All personally owned vehicles are subject to search by Fort Sill Police. **Personally owned firearms are not allowed on Fort Sill. Large bag's, parcels, backpacks will not be permitted at these events.** Use of cellular phones while driving on Fort Sill is strictly prohibited. Please cooperate with these measures and do **NOT** misplace your **VISITOR PASS**.

The **Family Day Ceremony** will begin at **10:00 a.m. on November 17, 2016** at the Bravo Battery area outside of Building 6007 on Fort Sill, OK. Family Day highlights your Soldier's achievements over the basic combat training cycle through a series of demonstrations of weapons, tactics, drill and ceremony, and physical fitness. Following the ceremony I will provide essential information on the pass policies for Family Day and Graduation. At the conclusion of this ceremony, your Soldier will be released on pass. Your Soldier will be required to return to the Battery area no later than 7:45 p.m.

The **Graduation Ceremony** will begin at **10:00 a.m. on November 18, 2016** at the Cache Creek Chapel. During the ceremony, feel free to take pictures of your Soldier as they graduate but please do not interfere with the movement of the Soldiers during

the ceremony. The graduating class will be seated together and will not have an opportunity to socialize during this time.

### **Here are the timelines for Family Day and Graduation:**

#### **Family Day: November 17, 2016**

09:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Arrival for Family Day Activities
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Family Day Ceremony
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Battery Commander in brief to family and friends (welcome and pass guidelines)
11:00a.m.-7:45p.m.	Pass Privileges
7:45p.m -8:00p.m.	Accountability Formation

#### **Graduation: November 18, 2016**

09:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Doors Open and Seating begins
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Graduation Ceremony
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m.	Soldiers Travel back to Battery
11:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	Pass briefing/sign out on pass
12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Pass Privileges
8:15 p.m -9:00 p.m.	Accountability Formation

Standardized maps to direct families to Graduation, AIT, and Family Day will be posted around the drill pad in the battery area and posted on our facebook page. These maps will cover on-post locations. These maps will not identify any commercial business. Training units will not recommend any commercial business.

Immediately following the graduation, we will release the Soldiers on pass; except for Soldiers remaining at Fort Sill (13 and 14 series MOSs). 13 series Soldiers will ship to 1-78 FA BN at 11:30a.m. The families and friends of 13 series Soldiers need to attend a brief to sign their Soldier out on pass at 12:00p.m. at 1-78 FA BN Headquarters' at (BLDG 2735 Bragg Street, Fort Sill, OK 73503). Families of 13 series Soldiers **WILL** be allowed to sign their Soldiers out on pass the following two days (Saturday and Sunday), so plan accordingly if you want more time with your Soldier.

Soldiers with follow on assignments at different posts will be released after graduation and must report back at 8:00 p.m. for accountability. These Soldiers will be shipped that night to their follow on assignment. Soldiers will travel by government arranged travel to their follow on assignments.

I hope you enjoy your visit to the Lawton/Fort Sill Area. Lawton/Fort Sill offers a vast array of attractions. As you may know, Fort Sill is located in southwest Oklahoma and is surrounded by the Wichita Mountains. If you take a drive through the Wichita Mountains, you can visit the Wildlife Refuge Center and Mt. Scott. In Lawton, you can enjoy the Great Plains Museum and some restaurants and entertainment. On Fort Sill, you can tour Geronimo's Guard House and Gravesite, the Old Post Quadrangle

Museum, and the U.S. Army Field Artillery Museum. You can find additional information about local hotels and restaurants in the Lawton/Fort Sill area at the Chamber of Commerce website: <http://www.lawtonfortsillchamber.com/>. Additional information can be found at <http://sill-www.army.mil/INDEX/maps/> and <http://sill-www.army.mil/>.

You can contact me via telephone at any time at the following number (580) 442-1312 or the following email address [joseph.m.field9.mil@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.m.field9.mil@mail.mil). I do spend a lot of time in the field with the Soldiers so email is probably the best way to contact me. On behalf of the Bravo Battery Cadre and Drill Sergeants, we look forward to meeting you and hope you enjoy your Soldier's graduation.

**“Peace through Victory”**

Sincerely,

JOSEPH M. FIELD  
CPT, FA  
Commanding