



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
BRAVO BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 19TH FIELD ARTILLERY
5960 ROTHWELL STREET
FORT SILL, OK, 73503-6202

10 JULY 2020

SUBJECT: Welcome Letter for Class # 56-20

Dear Parents, Family Members, and Friends:

I am CPT Wentz, Commander of Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 19th Field Artillery. I want you to know that the cadre who are training your Soldier are a very dedicated group of professionals. They are genuinely concerned about the health, welfare, and training of your Soldier. We consider your Soldier to be the most important asset of the Army's future.

During training, your Soldier will learn the basic skills that are required on today's modern battlefield. The training will be strenuous and demanding; however, the tasks learned and performed will help your Soldier develop the self-confidence needed to fight and win this nation's wars. Your Soldier's Basic Combat Training Class number is 56-20. You can keep track of your Soldier's Basic Training Class and their milestones they have achieved on our unit's Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BravoBattery119>.

If an emergency arises, the best means of notifying a Soldier in training is through your local American Red Cross. The field office in your vicinity will contact the Lawton field office, which will then contact me. To do so by telephone, dial 1-800-RED-CROSS and follow the instructions for contacting a military service member. Remember, your Soldier is in Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 19th Field Artillery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

On 2 October, 2020, your Soldier is expected to graduate from Basic Combat Training. A graduation letter will be sent in a few weeks that will provide more information, including specific timelines, for Family Day and graduation.

On occasion, trainees fail to graduate within the 9-week period. Therefore, if your Soldier has not been in contact with you, we ask that you please contact the battery approximately 1-2 weeks prior to graduation. At that point, we will be able to tell you if your Soldier is on track to graduate with the rest of the class. The Soldiers will be very busy the last few days before graduation. In the event your soldier will not graduate they will not be released or allowed to see Family and friends on Family Day and graduation.

For additional information on Fort Sill and the Basic Training program, please visit <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/index.html>, which is available 24 hours a day.

Friends and families should be aware that it is common for mail to take up to an additional 2 weeks for delivery, when mailing to Soldiers on a military installation. The battery will always deliver mail to the Soldiers the same day mail is received and will never withhold mail as a punishment for poor performance or misbehavior. **Please do not send any perishable or consumable items to your Soldier while in training.** Everything your Soldier is allowed to have and retain while staying with us is accessible to them while they are here. Letters of support with words of encouragement are the most precious thing you can send to your Soldier in training. Hygiene products may be mailed to your Soldier.

It is recommended to stop sending mail to your Soldier after 14 August, 2020 because of the additional processing time for postal handling. Please ask your Soldier any questions about graduation first. If they are not able to answer your questions, leave a message on the battery Facebook page. Typical response time is 48 hours. If there are any immediate issues or concerns, then contact the battery at (580) 442-1414. (NOTE: We cannot accept collect calls).

Your Soldier's mailing address while assigned to the battery is:

Rank "Last Name, First name"
Bravo Battery, 1-19th FA, __Plt
5960 Rothwell St
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

Example: PVT Smith, Joe
Bravo Battery, 1-19th FA, 1st PLT
5960 Rothwell St
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

The Bravo Battery team looks forward to seeing your Soldiers grow into the next generation of Army leaders and hopes everyone will be able to attend the family day and graduation ceremonies at the conclusion of the cycle.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Wentz
Captain, Field Artillery
Commanding