



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHARLIE BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 40TH FIELD ARTILLERY
6050 NE ROTHWELL STREET
FORT SILL, OK, 73503-6202

30 June 2021

SUBJECT: Welcome Letter for Class # 62-21

Dear Parents, Family Members, and Friends:

I am CPT Hawthorne, Commander of Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 40th 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 62-21. 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/C140Chaos/>.

Should an emergency arise, 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 Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 40th Field Artillery at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

On 03 September, 2021 at 10:00 AM, your Soldier is expected to graduate from Basic Combat Training. Additionally, there will be a Family Day on 02 September, 2021. Graduation and Family Day are both now open to the public and we look forward to seeing everyone who is able to make it to graduation to support our newest Soldiers. There will also be a Family Day and Graduation video posted on our FaceBook page. A graduation letter will be sent in a few weeks that will provide more information, including specific timelines, for Family Day and graduation. In addition to the graduation letter, please keep an eye out on our FaceBook page for the most up to date information regarding Graduation and Family Day.

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 visit <http://sill-www.army.mil/434/index.htm>. 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.

It is recommended to stop sending mail to your Soldier after 21 August, 2021 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) 442-1252. (NOTE: We cannot accept collect calls).

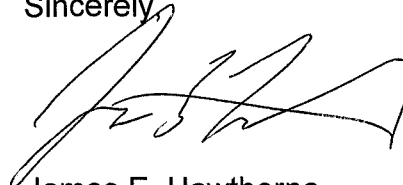
Your Soldier's mailing address while assigned to the battery is:

Rank "Last Name, First name"
Charlie Battery, 1-40th FA, __Plt
6050 NE Rothwell St
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

Example: PVT Smith, Joe
Charlie Battery, 1-40th FA, 1st PLT
6050 NE Rothwell St
Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

The Charlie 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



James E. Hawthorne
CPT, FA
Commanding