

Commander, Delta Battery, 1st Battalion, 19th Field Artillery

06 January 2022

Dear Delta Battery Families,

I am Captain (CPT) Tan Nguyen, your Trainee's Battery Commander for Basic Combat Training (BCT) Class # 17-22 in 434th Field Artillery Brigade, Fort Sill, OK. As you already know, your Trainee has safely arrived, in-processed, and has already begun their nine week journey towards becoming a Soldier in the United States Army.

As a member of Delta Battery, your Trainee is in good hands with my cadre. These hard working Non-commissioned and Commissioned Officers make up the most dedicated and professional team in the United States Army. We are here for more than simply ensuring your Trainee graduates BCT; we serve as coaches, trainers, mentors, and leaders to lay the foundation for a successful military career. Our goal is to provide our Army with well trained, motivated, team oriented, and disciplined Soldiers. Your Trainee will exude the Warrior Ethos, the Army Values, and demonstrate a winning attitude. Upon graduation they will be mentally, physically, and emotionally prepared for the rigors of combat in order to fight and win in the harsh environment of today's modern battlefield.

We accomplish this mission by providing your Trainees with realistic and relevant training. As you will hear firsthand from your Trainee, the training will consist of some of the most strenuous and demanding activities they have ever been through. BCT is not easy, nor should it be. Every task your Trainee performs during this course will help develop the discipline, self-confidence, and knowledge necessary to be a successful Soldier in today's Army.

We consider our Soldiers to be our Nation's most precious resource and a key asset of the Army's future. Because of this, your Trainee's development only begins with training and their development will continue until the day they are no longer in the military. What makes the Army a unique organization and culture is that taking care of Soldiers and their families is our foremost priority. Please know, we are genuinely concerned about your Trainee's overall health and well-being; we have a number of resources available to alleviate and mitigate any financial, medical, or personal issues.

This is not only your Trainee's first Army experience; it is likely yours as well. Therefore, we would also like to welcome you to the Army family. Like your family's values, our seven Army values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage are rooted deep in tradition and are sewn into the very soul of every American Soldier. Your Trainee is currently learning about these values while living by the Soldier's Creed. At times, this experience will seem to be very difficult for your Trainee. For many of our younger Trainees, this is their first time away from everything they know, to include home, family, and friends. Naturally, your Trainee misses you very much; I encourage you to write at every opportunity. **Simply, Trainees love getting mail.** Your sentiments of pride and encouragement provide a great deal of strength in the morale and motivation of your Trainee. Rest assured that your Trainee will be given time to write and read their mail. Your Trainee 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 Trainee will have the opportunity to use the phone on weekends, primarily Sunday afternoons. While packages are allowed, please do not send magazines, medication, electronic devices, weapons, knives, alcohol, food, tobacco products, pornography, or anything that could be considered morally questionable. Send mail to:

Rank, Last Name, First Name 1-19TH FA BN, DELTA BTRY, <u>#</u> PLT 5960 ROTHWELL STREET FORT SILL, OK 73503-6204

Your Trainee will be granted phone calls to contact you around Family Day and Graduation Day time frame, but it is still a privilege that is earned while being here at Basic Combat Training even after graduation. You may still write letters to them also. Understand that your Trainee will be with us until we have safe transport for them to go straight to AIT. There is nothing to worry about with your Soldiers during this crisis, we enforce strict cleanliness and exercise social distancing within the Army organization. We will be prompt on keeping you updated as soon as we get information to your Trainee.

On a good note, your Trainee will graduate on 11 March 2022 via Live Streaming on <u>https://livestream.com/firescenter/events</u>. So the Families and friends of these new Soldiers may see them in their accomplishments in completing Basic Combat Training. The link will be provided in our Battery Facebook page listed below.

You will have the opportunity to communicate with the Battery Leadership via phone calls and I will answer them as my work allows. I may be away from the office overseeing training of your Trainees most of the time. If a true emergency arises at home (i.e. serious injury, illness, or death of a family member) please call the American Red Cross Emergency Communications Center, for help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, at 877-272-7337 in order to quickly get the message to the unit and the Trainee.

Lastly, I would like to thank you and your family for the service of your Trainee. Every single member of my cadre attended Basic Combat Training at the beginning of their career. We all understand what it means to leave family behind. The support we have received from our families is invaluable. Thank you for the support you will provide your Trainee.

Devils!

War Eagles!

TAN N. NGUYEN CPT, FA Commanding