

THE SEVEN ARMY VALUES

Loyalty

Bear true faith and allegiance to the United States Constitution, the Army, your unit, and other Soldiers

Duty

Fulfill your obligations

Respect

Treat people as they should be treated

Selfless Service

Put the welfare of the Nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own

Honor

Live up to all the Army Values

Integrity

Do what's right, legally and morally

Personal Courage

Face fear, danger, or adversity
(physical and moral)

434th Field Artillery Brigade
Fort Sill, Oklahoma



Alpha Battery,
1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery
Basic Combat Training
Graduation Ceremony



Class # 22-24
12 April 2024



The 434th Field Artillery Brigade "Destroyers"

Commander,
434th Field Artillery Brigade
Colonel Michael P. Stewart

Command Sergeant Major,
434th Field Artillery Brigade
Command Sergeant Major Scott E. Kelsey

Commander,
1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery
Lieutenant Colonel Shawn R. Jokinen

Command Sergeant Major,
1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery
Command Sergeant Major Tywayne L. Richardson

Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery
Unit Cadre

Battery Commander	Captain Bradley C. Gibson
First Sergeant	First Sergeant Tommy A. Stumbo
Executive Officer	First Lieutenant Thomas J. Weatherford
Ops Support Assistant	Mr. Damian M. Sherman



The Army Goes Rolling Along

The U.S. Army Song was composed in the Philippines in 1908. Brigadier General (then Lieutenant) Edmund L. "Snitz" Gruber, an artillery officer, was stationed there with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, and wrote it with the help of two fellow lieutenants. After hearing one of his section chiefs urge his drivers to "keep them (guns) rolling," he felt inspired; and quickly produced the lyrics and music to "The Caisson Song." Instantly popular, the song was soon adopted by the entire U.S. Field Artillery. Later, the song was given to legendary composer John Phillip Sousa; the resulting "U.S. Field Artillery March" became a blockbuster during World War I, selling about 750,000 copies. Despite two attempts by the Army to create an official song, nothing that was created seemed to make its mark. Finally in 1952, H.W. Arberg, the Music Advisor to the Army Adjutant General, adapted "The Caisson Song" to become the official U.S. Army song, "The Army Goes Rolling Along."

*March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free.
Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory.
We're the Army and proud of our name!
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:*

*First to fight for the right,
And to build the Nation's might,
And The Army Goes Rolling Along.
Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along!*

*Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey!
The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong!
For where e'er we go,
You will always know
That The Army Goes Rolling Along!*

Unit Leadership

The Army Song

1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery

The 1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery was constituted 5 July 1918 in the National Army as the 31st Field Artillery and assigned to the 11th Division. It was organized at Camp George G. Meade, Maryland 6 August 1918 but relieved thereafter from its assignment to the 11th Division on 30 September 1918. The unit demobilized 9 December 1918 at Camp George G. Meade, Maryland.

On 22 July 1929, the 31st Field Artillery was reconstituted in the Regular Army and assigned to the 2nd Division, but was once again, later relieved on 1 January 1930 from its assignment to the 2nd Division.

The Battalion was subsequently assigned to the 7th Division on 1 July 1940 and activated at Camp Ord, California where it was reorganized and re-designated as the 31st Field Artillery Battalion on 1 October 1940. It underwent another reorganization and re-designation on 1 July 1957 as the 31st Field Artillery, which was a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System.

The 31st Field Artillery was then withdrawn from the Combat Arms Regimental System 16 March 1989, reorganized under the United States Army Regimental System, and transferred to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC).

The unit was re-designated as the 31st Field Artillery Regiment on 1 October 2005 and began the reactivation process on 1 October 2010, attaining operational capacity under the 434th Field Artillery Brigade and activated on 11 January 2011.

The Battalion is credited with participating in multiple campaigns in World War II as well as the Korean War. It has been distinguished with several decorations, to include the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation that was awarded on three separate occasions.



Program of Events

- **Welcome**
- **Invocation***
- **National Anthem***
- **The Soldier's Creed and Warrior Ethos**
- **Introduction of Guest Speaker**
Master Sergeant
Hilario Montaña
- **Presentation of Awards/Diplomas**
- **Drill Sergeant of the Cycle Award**
- **Reaffirmation of the Oath of Enlistment**
- **Singing of The Army Song***
- **Closing Remarks**
- **Departure of Graduating Class**

* *Guests are requested to stand during this portion of the ceremony*

The Soldier's Creed & Warrior Ethos

The Soldier's Creed was first introduced by then Army Chief of Staff, General Shinseki, in June of 2003. It represents the concept that *all* Soldiers are prepared for combat and embody the Warrior Ethos that is contained within it. Chief of Staff of the Army, General Schoomaker, reemphasized the creed and demonstrated his commitment to our Soldiers by stating, "No longer is a Soldier's value measured by how close he or she is to the front line -- there are no front lines on today's battlefield. Every Soldier is a warrior; every Soldier has to embody not only the Army Values every day but take to heart the Soldier's Creed, and most specifically right now, the Warrior Ethos."

I am an American Soldier.

I am a Warrior and a member of a team. I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.

I will always place the mission first.

I will never accept defeat.

I will never quit.

I will never leave a fallen comrade.

Warrior
Ethos

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills.

I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.

I am an expert and I am a professional.

I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.

I am an American Soldier.



**Staff Sergeant
Nicole L. Robichaux
Drill Sergeant
Alpha Battery,
1st Battalion,
31st Field Artillery**

From Norco, LA. Joined the Army in 2017; went to BCT at Fort Jackson and AIT at Fort Lee, VA. I am a Small Arms and Towed Artillery Repairer. I have been a shop foreman, ARMT NCOIC, Squad Leader, Team Leader

Been stationed at Fort Hood, TX, Fort Lewis, WA, and now Fort Sill, OK.

Schools I've been to are BLC, CLS, Combative Level 1, and DART.

2 ARCOM, 5 AAM, 1 AGCM, 2 COA



In September of 1964, the then CONARC (Continental Army Command)—created the Army's Drill Sergeant program at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. The concept was hugely successful and today produces the finest training cadre in the United States Armed Forces: the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant.

Today's Drill Sergeant is a Staff Sergeant or Sergeant First Class who faces one of the most demanding jobs in the Army: transforming a volunteer civilian into a Soldier. After being Department of the Army (DA) selected from the top 10 percent of their MOS, Drill Sergeants graduate from the nine-week Drill Sergeants School at Fort Jackson, South Carolina; highly motivated to train new soldiers.

A quick profile reveals that the vast majority of Drill Sergeants are extremely dedicated with a high sense of duty, are bright and articulate, and generally score on the extended scale of the Army Physical Fitness Test. These NCOs face 18-hour workdays in all conditions to ensure their soldiers meet the standards and wake up the next morning ready to begin again.

I am a Drill Sergeant.

I will assist each individual in their efforts to become a highly motivated, well-disciplined, physically and mentally fit Soldier capable of defeating any enemy on today's modern battlefield.

I will instill pride in all I train; pride in self, in the Army, and in country.

I will insist that each Soldier meets and maintains the Army standards of military bearing and courtesy, consistent with the highest traditions of the U.S. Army.

I will lead by example, never requiring a Soldier to attempt any task I would not do myself.

But first, last, and always I am an American Soldier, sworn to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, both foreign and domestic.

I am a Drill Sergeant.



Master Sergeant Retired Hilario Montañó

The son of two Mexican immigrants and the youngest of six siblings, Hilario Montañó was born September 1980 in Berkeley, Ca and raised in West Pittsburg, Ca. Upon graduating from Mt. Diablo High School in 1998, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and attended basic training in July of the same year at the age of 17.

After graduating from Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) San Diego, Ca, Private First Class (PFC) Montañó attended Marine Combat Training at Camp Pendleton, Ca. He then reported to Motor Transportation School at Ft Leonard Wood, Mo where he finished in the top of his class and moved onto Logistical Vehicle System (LVS) Operator Course. Upon completion of training in 1999 and earning an MOS of 3533, PFC Montañó received orders to Marine Corps Base (MCB) Albany, Ga.

Shortly after arriving at MCB Albany, PFC Montañó was promoted to Lance Corporal (LCpl). In December 1999, LCpl Montañó was meritoriously promoted to Corporal (Cpl). Following his promotion, Cpl Montañó attended Airborne School at Ft Benning, Ga in January 2000 earning his jump wings.

In the summer of 2000, Cpl Montañó received orders and reported to 1st Transportation Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group, where he became a Close Combat Instructor and participated in numerous Field Exercises such as Steal Rain in 29 Palms and Bright Star in Egypt. In 2002, Cpl Montañó did a Lateral Move to Small Computer Specialist, conducting training in 29 Palms, Ca and earning the MOS of 4066 during which he was promoted to Sergeant (Sgt). He received orders back to 1st FSSG as part of Headquarters and Service Battalion (HQSVCBN), where he subsequently took orders to HQSVCBN, Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan from Jan 2002 to Jan 2003. During his time on Okinawa, he deployed as part of Brigade Service Support Group 3 in support of Exercise Crocodile 2003 in Australia. Finishing his tour in Okinawa, Sgt Montañó received orders to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division Camp Pendleton Ca. In August 2004, he deployed as the G-6 Platoon Sergeant to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II-2 at blue Diamond, Ramadi.

In 2006, Sgt Montañó attended Data Chiefs Course and was promoted to Staff Sergeant (SSgt). Upon completion of the course, he was issued orders to Headquarters Battery, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division as the Data Chief. His time with 11th Marines was brief, but full of field exercises. SSgt Montañó received orders in 2006 to Marine Air Group (MAG) 24 on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii as the Data Chief. After completing the screening process, SSgt Montañó was given orders to Marine Helicopter Squadron 1 (HMX-1). Reporting to HMX-1 Quantico, Va. in 2009, he completed the rigorous training and became a Communication Systems Operator aboard Marine 1. In January 2010, he was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant (GySgt). From there he deployed worldwide in support of the President of the United States (POTUS). GySgt Montañó received orders to Marine Corps Augmentation and Training Support Unit in 2014 as the Data Chief. In January 2016, he reported back to HMX-1 as the Squadron's Communication's Chief, was Frocked to Master Sergeant (MSgt), and once again provided worldwide support to the POTUS. MSgt Montañó served another four years at HMX-1 and retired in 2020.

He continues to provide communication support to HMX-1 and is a volunteer fireman for his county.



Distinguished Honor Graduate: The Distinguished Honor Graduate is the Soldier who through performance and evaluation by the Drill Sergeants is rated as the best in the class.

PFC Joseph P. Fulmer



Basic Rifle Marksmanship Award: This Soldier has distinguished himself by achieving the highest score during Basic Rifle Marksmanship: 30 out of 40

PV1 John C. Leavell



Army Combat Fitness Badge Award: This award is given to the Soldier that achieves the highest physical fitness score during the final Army Combat Fitness Test: 592 out of 600

PFC Joseph P. Fulmer



Private Louis Birtz Award: This award is presented to the Soldier who best displays the Army Values and who most inspires Soldiers.

SPC Kaden S. Hanks

Honor Graduates: These are the top ten percent of the graduating class:

- PV1 Donovan T. Brenan
- PV1 Devon L. Em
- SPC James M. Farrell
- PV1 Keydren S. Johnson
- PFC Gage M. Goulas
- PFC Aden B, Leathers

- PFC Xezavion T. Ward
- PV2 Navarro J. Vasquez
- PV2 Mason B. Williamson



Private Louis Birtz

An act of heroism by Private Louis Birtz, Battery "A" 19th Field Artillery Regiment on the night of 18 August 1918, gave the regiment its motto "Per Scintillam Flamma" (Through The Spark The Flame).

The 1st Battalion fired about 2000 Artillery rounds at the enemy attempting to capture the village of Frapella and Hill 415. The Germans retaliated with mustard and arsenic gases. During the battle, Battery "A" had trouble with the lights used as aiming points.

Disregarding personal safety, Private Birtz took up a station in front of the guns and lit matches so the guns could be sighted without aiming points. He continued this all during the shelling. The enemy shells bursting around him saturated the area with gas as his own guns were firing over him. He came through this unscratched.

Private Birtz was killed the next day in an accident.

In today's Army, Soldiers are still asked to display the Army Values and Warrior Ethos that Private Louis Birtz showed on that August day.



“GRIZZLIES”
SFC Jessie Espinal
SSG Eric Gibson
SSG Carter Abrell

- PV1 ABOUAF ISAAC ALLEN
- PV1 ADON CEPEDA EMMANUEL PATRICIO
- PV1 AUGUSTINE THOMAS ROSS
- PV1 BRENNAN DONOVAN TRAVIS IGITOL
- PV1 CHILDRESS ROGER JOE
- PV1 COTHREN ZACHARY LYNN
- PV1 CRISCO JEREMIAH LAEL
- PV1 DENNIS MARCUS NEHEMIAH AMARION
- PV1 DI PAOLA JUAN DIEGO
- PV1 DUNN CARNEGIE JALEN EXHAVIER
- PV1 ELLIOT SAMUEL LUCAS
- PV1 EM DEVON LEE
- PV1 FLETCHER ETHAN JOSHUA
- PV1 GARDNER WILLIAM EMERSON
- PV2 BRILEY BRANDON MAURICE
- PV2 CHAN BENJAMIN MILO
- PFC ALVA SADRAK JERUSALEM
- PFC AQUINO PIERRE P
- PFC BESPARGMAK YUSUF
- PFC BRIDGES THORIN, PEI
- PFC CAMUSO ERIC BRIAN
- PFC CHANG JAMIE
- PFC FOX KHILIF J
- PFC FUENTES JEAN LUC
- PFC FULMER JOSEPH PAUL
- SPC FARRELL JAMES MICHAEL

“ORCAS”
SSG Daniel Vasquez
SSG Joshua Thomas
SSG Nicole Robichaux

- PV1 GONZALEZ DIEGO SAUL
- PV1 GUERRIER RODNEL
- PV1 HARTLEY JONATAN OSCAR
- PV1 HOUSTON ISAIAH JAMES
- PV1 JOHNSON KEYDREN SYNCERE
- PV1 LEAVELL JOHN CURTIS
- PV1 MCALISTER TRACE SCOTT GENE
- PV1 MCDONALD CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER
- PV1 MOHR CORBEN MICHAEL
- PFC GOMEZ FRANKLIN LEONEL
- PFC GOULAS GAGE MICHAEL
- PFC GWET TOKO VINCENT
- PFC HARRIOTT JAHATH LEO THERRIEN
- PFC HERRERA-MARTINEZ BRYAN
- PFC IRHASHAU RUSTAM
- PFC LAPIERRE JARRED DEAN
- PFC LEATHERS ADEN BRICE
- SPC GUZMAN JOSE GUADALUPE
- SPC HANKS KADEN STORM
- SPC HERREN GABRIEL DAVID
- SPC JIGARJIAN DEAN ELAN
- SPC MIGLIACCI SCOTT ROBERT
- SPC MONTERO VICTOR MANUEL
- SSG HEYWARD JAMES DESMOND



“Black Sheep”
SSG Tracey Stremming
SSG Charles Knox
SSG Crystal Whitley



PV1 ODLE BENEN JOSEPH ROBB
PV1 PENA-REYES ALEXIS
PV1 POLANCO DOUGLAS JOAQUIN
PV1 RAMIREZ JAIME DANIEL
PV1 RIGGENBACH BENJAMIN ALAN
PV1 RODRIGUEZ GARCIA CESAR
PV1 SCHOPPERT LUKE MARSHAL
PV1 SHAFFER JAKOB JAMES
PV1 SIASAU PITA LAMBDIN BAM
PV1 SMITH JORDAN DEYONE
PV1 SPRAW RANDY ALAN
PV1 SUMMERVILLE ALEX LYDELL
PV1 THOMSEN JETT KENT
PV1 VENEGAS JUAN LUIS
PV1 WARD ELIJAH MICHAEL
PV2 SIMPKINS DEJION JAVIER
PV2 SLATTERY ARCHER WYATT
PV2 TUCKER COLTON STUART
PV2 VAN HEMERT AARON K
PV2 VAZQUEZ NAVARRO JUAN C
PV2 WILLIAMSON MASON BRADLEY

PFC PARRISH ROBERT ELLIS
PFC SCHULZ BRADLEY LOUIS
PFC TENAI HANSEL KIPNGETICH
PFC WARD XEZAVION TERREL
SPC ROLLINS JEFFREY DANIEL
SPC SATTERWHITE RAJON JAREL
SPC SHEPARD BRADLEY SCOTT
SPC TEMEL MURAT
SPC YOGALINGAM ARUSHAN



THIRD PLATOON

FOURTH PLATOON