

434th Field Artillery Brigade
Fort Sill, Oklahoma



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



Class # 37-24
07 June 2024



**The 434th Field Artillery Brigade
“Service With Pride”**

**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.

**F Battery, 1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery
Unit Cadre**

Battery Commander
Battery First Sergeant
Executive Officer
Platoon Leader
Supply Sergeant
Supply Specialist
Operations Support

First Lieutenant Sarah R. Martin
First Sergeant Ryheam D. McHellen
Second Lieutenant Kyra G. Keith
First Lieutenant Ellington M. Ward
Sergeant Liberty Rose W. Tajalle
Specialist Keisha M. Santiago
Mr. Robert A. Peel



Program of Events

- Welcome
- Invocation
- National Anthem
- Introduction of Guest Speaker:
 - CSM(r) Dale D. Kotzea

Presentation of Awards/Diplomas

- Drill Sergeant of the Cycle Award
 - Drill Sergeant Adriel S. Marquit
- Playing of The Army Song
- Closing Remarks
- Departure of Graduating Class

Program of Events



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.

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.

Warrior
Ethos





CSM(r) Dale D. Kotzea United States Army National Guard

He began his military career in December 1975 and served his entire 26-year career with the 147th Field Artillery. In 1976 he completed basic military training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma graduating as a Cannon Fire Direction Specialist -13 Echo. Advancing through his military career he held NCO leadership positions in FDC, Operations, and as First Sergeant in Headquarters Battery and Alpha Firing Battery of the 2nd Bn 147th FA. He was promoted to the rank of CSM in 1999 and served in this position with both the 1st and 2ndBn of the 147th FA BDE. In 1983 and concurrent with his military career he started a 25-year career with the South Dakota Highway Patrol. He held the rank of State Trooper, Sergeant, and Lieutenant before retiring in 2008.

CIVILIAN EDUCATION:

Bachelor of Science degree from Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD - 1981

MILITARY EDUCATION:

Non-Commissioned Officer Course – 1979

Jr. Leadership Course – 1986

Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course – 1992

Sergeants Major Course - 1996

AWARDS:

Meritorious Service Medal (2ND Award)

Army Commendation Medal

Army Achievement Medal (3rd Award)

CSM Kotzea is a native of South Dakota where he still resides. He enjoys almost anything outdoors and spending time with his family especially his three grandchildren Mackenzie, William, and Joseph.

Guest Speaker



Class Awardees

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.

SPC JOHN T. BUISCH

High Rifle Marksmanship (RM) Award: This Soldier has distinguished himself by achieving the highest score during Rifle Marksmanship.

PV2 LUKE C. BARTLETT (36/40)

High Army Combat Fitness Test: This award is given to the Soldier that achieves the highest Physical Fitness Training score during a Physical Fitness Test.

PVT TAVIAN J. DAWSON (595/600)

Private Louis Birtz Award: This award is presented to the Soldier that displayed the personal courage, dedication and motivation that Private Louis Birtz displayed (see narrative on following pages). The battery chain of command recognizes this Soldier as the most improved in his class:

PV2 LORINA R. GETTEN

Honor Graduates:

The top ten percent of the graduating class are:

**SPC REILLY C. LANNEN
SPC LATARIO A. MOXEY
SPC ALEXANDER J. ROCHA
PFC IMONAE M. S. INGRAM
PFC RAUL F. NOGUE
MORALES
PFC TANA N. SARKISSIAN
PFC ADAM M. WILL**

**PV2 MADELINE K. BLACK
PV2 LORINA R. GETTEN
PV2 ERIC E. MALDONADO
PVT MATTHEW D. HILLS
PVT ELISE N. MCCAREY
PVT LUCAS RAMEY
PVT ANTHONY M. SCHENKING**



1ST PLATOON "HELLHOUNDS"

SDS DEPATIE
DS MOLINA – DS SELLERS
DS GARCIA – DS WHITE

SPC BUISCH, JOHN
PFC ADEN, ADEN
PFC CHAPMAN, ASA
PFC GETTEN, LORINA
PFC GOMEZ, DANIKA
PFC INGRAM, IMONAE
PFC JACKSON, CALVIN
PFC KAPEL, OTHELLO
PV2 ALEFAIO, IAFETA
PV2 BARTLETT, LUKE
PV2 BLACK, MADELINE
PV2 BRYANT, HUNTER
PV2 CARDICHON, MIKYEL
PV2 CEDILLO, LUIS
PV2 CORTES, NESTOR
PV2 DEAL, MARIO
PV2 DOOLEY, CYRUS
PV2 EASTERLIN, WILLIAM
PV2 GAMMELL, ANN
PV2 GARCIA, ANDREW

PV2 GREGORY, MCKENZIE
PV2 HOLDER, CODY
PV2 HOLLOWAY, GARRETT
PV2 HONECKER, KADEN
PV2 INGRAM, LENITA
PV2 JEDINY, MICHAEL
PVT AVILES, ANTHONY
PVT BROOKS, TAVION
PVT CANO, CHRISTIAN
PVT CLAMPITT, JAY
PVT COLLINS, KOBE
PVT DAWSON, TAVIAN
PVT DIALLO, MAMADOU
PVT DIXON, DEIJOHN
PVT FULLER, MALIKAI
PVT GOODRICH, MICHAEL
PVT GROSS, SKYLAR
PVT HERRERA, BRIANA
PVT HILLS, MATTHEW
PVT JARA, MICHAEL

Honor Platoon - First Platoon



2ND PLATOON

“CHAOS”

SDS BARTON

DS MARQUIT – DS WILTSHIRE

Second Platoon

SPC LANNEN, REILLY
SPC LORENTI, LUNA
SPC MOXEY, ALEX
PFC LITTLE, DAVID
PFC LOMAX, STEWART
PFC LOPEZ, DAVID
PFC LOWRY, CHARLES
PFC MILLER, HEATHER
PFC MORALES, RAYMOND
PFC NOGUE, RAUL
PFC PONCE, SANCHEZ
PV2 LAUR, EVAN
PV2 LOFTON, TYLER
PV2 MALDONADO, ERIC
PV2 MULCAHY, KOBE
PV2 MURRAY, TRENIECE
PV2 OLIZIA, NERVELIE
PV2 PAULHUS, MICHAEL

PVT DUFRENE, SAMUEL
PVT FERRER, JAYSHAWN
PVT JONES, SKYE
PVT KARNA, JOHN
PVT KING, ZACKARY
PVT LAMOUR, JENNY
PVT LISKIEWICZ, HAYDEN
PVT LIU, JIA
PVT MCCAREY, ELISE
PVT MONTELONGO, DANIEL
PVT MOORE, SHAUN
PVT MUSCELLI, BRIANNA
PVT NEAL, DAVID
PVT NIYOMUGABO, BALUME
PVT PATEL, VIVEK
PVT PUZ, EVAN
PVT RAMEY, LUCAS



3RD PLATOON "WOLFHOUSES"

SDS CLARK

DS BIDWELL - DS BARRON - DS HANSEN

DS KIRBY - DS WALLACE

SPC ECK, JULIAN
SPC ROCHA, ALEXANDER
SPC RUEDA, SANCHEZ
PFC POUTOA, SUSAN
PFC ROJAS, RAYMOND
PFC SANDERS, ISSAC
PFC SARKISSIAN, TANA
PFC SAUAFEA, TRITON
PFC SILLIMAN,
CHRISTOPHER
PFC SIMEONE, NICHOLAS
PFC STARK, CAMERON
PFC VERGARA, BRANDON
PFC WILL, ADAM
PV2 MESSINA, ANGE
PV2 PAULINO, KELVIN
PV2 PERKINS, TONI
PV2 RANDALL, COLIN
PV2 REISINGER, TREVOR
PV2 RODRIGUEZ, ACOSTA
PV2 RODRIGUEZ, ELIJAH
PV2 SHEA, JONATHAN
PV2 STRICKLAND,
CAROLINE

PV2 VOLOSHCHUK, DANIEL
PV2 WARREN, CHRISTOPHER
PV2 WILSON, STEPHEN
PV2 ZAGATA, ALLYSON
PVT REDMOND, ALEXIS
PVT RIGG, KRISTINA
PVT RIZZO, FRANCESCA
PVT RODRIGUEZ, YOHANA
PVT SAMPLEY, JADON
PVT SCHENKING, ANTHONY
PVT SERRANO, IRVING
PVT SNYDER, WAYNE
PVT STARKS, TYVONTE
PVT SWINEFORD, WYATT
PVT TELLES, ANNA
PVT TOURE, AMED
PVT VASQUEZ, ZACARIAS
PVT WILLIAMS, JAVION
PVT WILLIAMS, MALIK
PVT WORSTER, DANIEL
PVT XIONG, DEREK
PVT ZHONG, ZHUOLIN

Third Platoon





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.

The Private Louis Birtz



The Drill Sergeant's Creed



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 sergeant, 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.





SSG ADRIEL S. MARQUIT Drill Sergeant Foxtrot Battery, 1-31st FA BN

Staff Sergeant (SSG) Adriel S. Marquit was born in Cherry Point, NC. He attended Glendale Community College in Glendale, AZ and graduated in 2012. While attending GCC he took college courses in general studies. In 2013 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as a Tank Crewman (1812). SSG Marquit attended and graduated Boot Camp at Marine Corps Recruiting Depot San Diego, CA and conducted Marine Combat Training in Camp Pendleton, CA. After completing (MCT) he got his orders to 29 Palms, CA. Upon arrival to 29 Palms, CA in 2014 he was deployed to Bahrain where he served as Security Forces. On return to his duty station he served the rest of his Marine Corps enlistment as a tanker holding positions as a driver, loader, gunner and tank Commander. In 2017 he got out honorably and within two months he enlisted into the United States Army.

Immediately following enlistment into the Army he was given the MOS as an 88M, he arrived to AIT in 2017 in Fort Leonard Wood, MO. After Graduation he was put on orders to Fort Riley KS and assigned to 299th BSB attached to 5-4 CAV. After reporting to Fort Riley, KS he was deployed to Poland. He served as a Team Leader in Atlantic Resolve conducting sustainment missions. After returning in 2018 he began to serve as NCOIC of the orderly room where he would supervise schools and supply.

SSG Marquit military education includes: The United States Army Drill Sergeant Academy, Basic Leaders Course, Advanced Leaders Course, License Instructor Examiner, Master Fitness Trainer, Occupational Safety and Health, Risk Management and Preparation, Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, Lean Six Sigma Green Belt.

SSG Marquit's awards and decorations includes:

The Air Assault Badge, 1 Army Commendation Medal, 4 Army Achievement Medals, 2 Army Good Conduct Medal, 1 Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, 1 National Defense Service Medal, 1 Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Service Medal, 1 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, 2 Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, 1 Army Service Ribbon, 2 Over Seas Service Ribbon, 1 Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, 4 Certificate of Achievement, 1 Driver/Mechanic Badge, 1 Expert Marksmanship Badge; Rifle, 1 Expert Marksmanship Badge; Pistol.



Drill Sergeant of the Cycle (DSOC)

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 FA 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 FA 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.



The Army Goes Rolling Along

The U.S. Army Song got its beginnings 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!*

The Army Song



THE 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)