



Department of the Army
C Battery, 1st Battalion, 40th Field Artillery



“CHAOS ON CALL”

CLASS# 40-26

31 March 2026 - 05 June 2026

Greetings from beautiful Fort Sill, Oklahoma! I am Captain Pitts and along with First Sergeant Nauer, we will make up the Command team for your Trainee during their time in Basic Combat Training. As you already know, your Trainee has safely arrived, in-processed, and has started their 10-week journey towards becoming a Soldier.

During the ten-week training period, your Trainee will learn the basic skills that are required to survive and win on today's modern battlefield. The training will be very strenuous and demanding, but the tasks performed will help each Trainee develop the discipline and self-confidence necessary to be a successful Soldier in today's Army.

I want you to know that the Drill Sergeants who will train your Trainee are a very dedicated group of professionals who are genuinely concerned about the health, welfare, and training of each Trainee. We serve as coaches, teachers, mentors, and leaders whose mission is more than just making sure your Trainee graduates BCT. Our goal is to provide our Army with well-trained, motivated, and disciplined Soldiers who respond to leadership, are focused on teamwork, embrace the Warrior Ethos and the Army Values, demonstrate a winning attitude, and are mentally, physically, and emotionally prepared for the rigors of combat to fight and win on the modern battlefield.

YOU WILL HEAR FROM YOUR TRAINEE SOON!

By now, you should have already received a phone call from your Trainee. Your Trainee is extremely busy, so do not expect regular communication. Written communication is often more reliable than phone calls. Trainees are afforded opportunities on Sundays to use their cell phones to contact whom they choose; however, this is a **PRIVILEGE** that can be revoked for poor performance or misconduct. I ask that you do not try to attempt to contact your Trainee by phone. If there are any concerns regarding the health and welfare of your Trainee, I will personally let you know, or your Trainee will be allowed to call home.

YOUR TRAINEE WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Whether or not this is your Trainee's first time away from home, I am sure that your Trainee will miss you a great deal. I strongly encourage you to write at every opportunity. Your Trainee will have time to write you as well. When writing your Trainee, use the following address.

Rank Last Name, First Name
C Battery, 1st BN 40th FA
PLT, Class # 44 - 25
5955 Rothwell Street
Fort Sill, OK 73503

Packages are not generally necessary because your Trainee can buy everything they need here at our local Post Exchange. However, if you choose to send your Trainee a package, please observe the following guidelines:

- ✓ No alcohol or products containing alcohol, tobacco, or narcotics

- ✓ No weapons
- ✓ No radios, televisions, cameras, or other electronic devices
- ✓ No pornographic or morally questionable materials
- ✓ No magazines or books
- ✓ No liquids, food items, candy, cookies, snacks, etc. (this attracts rodents and can cause a disease outbreak)
- ✓ No medications (Any medication will be provided by the Army Medical professionals.)

The following items are authorized and great items to send:

- ✓ Stamps
- ✓ Paper and envelopes
- ✓ Unscented hygiene items
- ✓ Special laundry soap

PLEASE LIMIT SENDING PACKAGES! Your Trainees only have a SMALL drawer to store personal items, and will NOT have space to keep items sent from home. Everything they need on a day-to-day basis is provided.

WHAT CAN I DO TO ASSIST MY TRAINEE DURING TRAINING?

The best thing you can do is write as many encouraging letters as possible. Trainees look forward to the mail call. Small, tasteful photos are also a great motivator for Trainees.

HOW ARE THEY TREATING MY TRAINEE?

Trainees are treated fairly and firmly with dignity and respect. Abuse of any kind is NOT tolerated. Drill Sergeants are selected among the best Noncommissioned Officers in the Army and are highly qualified to train recruits.

MAY MY TRAINEE ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES?

Absolutely! Trainees have the opportunity to attend weekly religious services of various denominations and bible study. Trainees are also permitted to seek counseling from an Army Chaplain, who is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY TRAINEE FAILS A PORTION OF BASIC TRAINING?

If a Trainee fails to meet any of the graduation requirements, every effort will be made for the Trainee to retake the failed portion. In the event the Trainee cannot pass or retake that portion, they will be considered for a transfer (recycle) to another unit to complete the remaining training requirements. We will ensure that your Trainee is allowed to call home to keep you updated on their status.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

If an emergency arises, the best means of notifying your Trainee is through your local American Red Cross. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year, at 1-800-RED-CROSS. Follow the instructions for contacting a military service member, in order to quickly get the message to the unit and the Trainee. The field office in your area will contact the Lawton, Oklahoma field office who will, in turn, contact us. In extreme cases, such as serious injury or death of an immediate family member, an emergency leave of absence may be granted, (this is a case-by-case basis only). Other leaves of absence during training are not authorized.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY TRAINEE IS INJURED DURING TRAINING?

Should any injury occur, your Trainee will receive appropriate medical attention from Fort Sill's state-of-the-art medical facilities. Additionally, Drill Sergeants are Combat Lifesaver qualified and carry medical aid kits. Injuries that prevent Soldiers from graduating will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Any Trainee who is injured during training and cannot complete the remaining training requirements will be transferred to the Warrior Training Rehabilitation Program (WTRP) to recover. Once the Trainee recovers, they will be sent to another training unit to resume the portion of training they missed.

TOWN HALL, FAMILY DAY, AND GRADUATION INFORMATION

Provided he/she meets all Basic Combat Training graduation standards and is not facing any administrative actions, your Soldier will graduate on **Friday, 05 June 2026** at Cache Creek Chappel Complex at 6043 Rothwell St., Fort Sill, OK 73503. Your Soldier should know his/her graduation status by the end of the 8th week of training.

SHIPPING TO ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING (AIT)

Your Soldier will ship to AIT beginning on **06 June 2026** via government-provided transportation. No Soldier is authorized to proceed to AIT by any method other than what is coordinated by the government. Field Artillery and Air Defense Artillery Soldiers who are attending AIT here at Fort Sill will ship to their gaining unit by the afternoon of graduation.

POINTS OF CONTACT

If we can be of assistance to you in any matter relating to your Soldier, please feel free to contact us by phone or email:

Battery Commander: CPT Pitts, Edwin
Phone: 580-442-1253
E-mail: edwin.l.pitts.mil@army.mil

Battery First Sergeant: 1SG Nauer, Jonathan
Phone: 580-442-1278
E-mail: jonathan.c.nauer.mil@army.mil

\\Original Signed//
EDWIN L. PITTS III
CPT, FA
Commanding

Useful Websites:

Fort Sill Live Stream: youtube.com/@usarmyfortsill/streams