

Dear Student:

As the Branch Chief of the United States Army Combatives Course, I would like to welcome you to the Combatives Master Trainer Course. You have demonstrated to your subordinates, peers, and superiors, that you possess the qualities and attributes to become a Combatives Master Trainer.

You will find the course to be physically and mentally challenging, but very rewarding. You will be bruised, bloodied, and punched in the face. The curriculum is demanding and constantly updated with current doctrine. Therefore, your ideas are highly encouraged and recommended. We encourage you to share your combat experience, both good and bad. What worked and didn't work; for your experience may help one of your peers during future deployments. Remember, some of the training you receive at USACS you may already be proficient at. This is not the case for all of your fellow NCO's. It is my expectation that you will be a team player and assist your classmates who are not up to date with current techniques. We are an Army at war and we can only win as a team.

You will have some time off – mostly on the weekends. The Fort Benning / Columbus area has plenty to do during your off time. Columbus has both a semi-pro hockey team and arena football team. I recommend you go to the Fort Benning MWR website to find out what's happening on post and in Columbus during your stay here. I encourage you to get out of the hotel and take advantage of what the local community can offer you. Your hotel will be within walking distance to a Movie Theater, Smith Gym and the Benning Brew Pub which provides Pay Per View sporting events for free.

Students will report to Building 9079, 8829 Marne Rd, Fort Benning, GA, 31905 (Piliaau Hall) at 1500 on their designated Report Date. Civilian attire is authorized when reporting. Soldiers on TDY will contact USACS cadre if they encounter problems or delays during travel and are unable to report on time. Soldiers will report with all required documentation found in the "Course Material" section on our Combatives website. Each student's unit is responsible for lodging, per diem, and personal transportation.

This memorandum and the enclosures that accompany it will provide you with the information required prior to arrival. Please read this memorandum and all the enclosures carefully. Normally, the information included will sufficiently answer any questions, however, if you have additional questions after carefully reviewing these documents, feel free to call me or the Operations Sergeant at (706) 544-5259.

The Kelly Hill Combatives facility is one of the finest Combatives training facilities available, Army wide. The objectives here are designed to further develop your confidence, responsibility, leadership techniques and higher personal and professional standards. You have already proven yourself as a leader. I look forward to working with you and will do everything I can for you to be successful in this course.

"Finish the Fight"  
SAYLES, BRANDON K.  
SFC, USA  
BRANCH CHIEF