



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 197TH INFANTRY BRIGADE
5241 23rd INFANTRY REGIMENT STREET, BLDG. 3410
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-5921

Incoming Soldiers and Families,

Welcome to the 197th Infantry Brigade "Sledgehammer" team! The Sledgehammer Brigade is one of two Infantry One Station Unit Training (OSUT) Brigades, and includes five subordinate battalions and the 197th Infantry Brigade Headquarters & Headquarters Company. Re-activated in July of 2020 to augment Fort Benning's capacity to train Infantry recruits during the 22-week OSUT, we are the newest addition to the Maneuver Center of Excellence.

Our mission is to transform our nation's civilian volunteers into lethal, fit, and disciplined Infantry Soldiers with the confidence to immediately integrate, deploy, fight, and win worldwide.

Fort Benning, located in Columbus, Georgia, is home to the U.S. Army Infantry School (USAIS), the U.S. Army Armor School (USAARMS), and the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE). Information about the Sledgehammer Brigade, Fort Benning, and the surrounding areas can be found on the Fort Benning webpage at <https://www.benning.army.mil>. You can also visit the unit Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/197SLEDGEHAMMER>.

Your assignment here will be challenging, yet incredibly rewarding. You will be a part of our Nation's history as you serve in an important role by shaping future Infantry Soldiers and Leaders. I ask that you come motivated and prepared to contribute to the Infantry School and its legacy.

For both Soldiers with Families and single Soldiers, we encourage you to utilize the resources at hand, such as your sponsor, your units' Soldier & Family Readiness Group (SFRG), and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) programs. These resources are there to assist you in your transition and meet the Soldiers and Families in your unit.

When you arrive, you will report to Building 35, Installation Replacement, on Fort Benning, between the hours of 0600 and 1500. In the event you arrive on a non-duty day or after duty hours, you must report to the staff duty desk at Building 4, McGinnis-Wickham Hall. During elevated COVID mitigation measures, you will simply drop off a copy of your DA31 and PCS orders, then proceed to the Sledgehammer Brigade's S-1 office at 5241 23rd Infantry Regiment Street, Building 3410. The Brigade S-1 will assign you to a unit and provide step-by-step guidance on MCoE in-processing.

If you have any questions regarding your assignment, please contact the Brigade S1, CPT Stephanie McCormick, at (706) 905-0337 or stephanie.p.mccormick.mil@mail.mil. We look forward to meeting you upon your arrival. Congratulations on your assignment to the Sledgehammer Team!


VICTOR M. BENAVIDES
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major


BART G. HENSLER
COL, IN
Commanding