

UNITED STATES ARMY ALASKA



**SFC CHRISTOPHER R. BREVARD
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER
ACADEMY**



BASIC LEADER COURSE

STUDENT GUIDE

1 May 2016

SFC Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy Student Guide for the Basic Leader Course

Effective Date: 1 November 2015

Supersedes: SFC Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy Student Guide dated 1 December 2010.

Proponent: The proponent for this student guide is the Commandant, SFC Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy. Address all correspondence to:

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World Wide Web: This student guide can be downloaded from the Academy home page at <http://www.usarak.army.mil/NCOA/>.

Additional information such as the BLC packing list, pre-execution checklists, sponsor guidance, class dates, and current student academic standings can also be accessed.

Purpose: The purpose of this student guide is to provide a single-source document outlining policies and procedures for students reporting to and attending BLC. All students must carefully read and familiarize themselves with this guide and comply with its contents within 24 hours after arrival at the NCO Academy. Failure to comply with the policies or procedures contained herein could result in an early release from the Academy.

Gender Disclaimer: The words "He" or "His" when used in this publication represents both masculine and feminine genders.

Distribution: One copy per group is provided on the first day of the BLC training cycle along with other course reading material. Students are required to read the Student Guide within 24 hours of receipt and comply with the contents within.

Student Guide Approval: The following individuals have reviewed and approved this Student Guide for publication and implementation at the SFC Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy for use by the BLC student.

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RONALD FERDINAND	CSM	Commandant	NOV 2015
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MEMORANDUM FOR Perspective Students

SUBJECT: Student Welcome Letter, Basic Leader Course (BLC)

1. Welcome to the United States Army Alaska Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Basic Leader Course. This student guide will give you an overview of what to expect while attending BLC. I have included prescribed policies, objectives and procedures for all students to follow while attending BLC.

2. This course is non-MOS specific, taught in a Noncommissioned Officer Academy live-out environment using classroom instruction with practical application, followed by hands-on, performance-oriented training conducted in a field training environment, culminating with an extensive situational training exercise (STX). Small Group Leaders (SGLs) will assign students to leadership positions where they will lead a section/squad. SGLs will evaluate the students in their leadership abilities and how they use their troop leading procedures and other skills they learned in the course.

3. The objectives of the BLC are to graduate students who:

- a. Instilling self-discipline
- b. Developing professional ethics
- c. Leading, disciplining, and developing Soldiers
- d. Planning, executing, and evaluating individual and team training
- e. Planning and executing missions and tasks assigned to team-size units
- f. Caring for Soldiers and families

4. I have included support materials that are imperative to your development as a junior leader and will guide you in your success at the Basic Leader Course.

5. Again, welcome to the United States Army Alaska Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Basic Leader Course. You will find your time at the Academy personally challenging and professionally rewarding.

//ORIGINAL SIGNED//
RONALD FERDINAND
CSM, USA
Commandant

FORWARD

This student guide will assist you while preparing for attendance at the Christopher R. Brevard Noncommissioned Officer Academy. Each policy and procedure is based on Army regulations and strictly enforced. Personnel attending the NCO Academy **MUST** read this Student Guide as soon as possible after selection for attendance and will comply with its contents. Students are subject to the policies of this academy as published by the Commandant and failure to read and comply with the contents may result in adverse counseling and can constitute grounds for a motivational or disciplinary release.

EMBLEM AND MOTTO



Background: The newly instituted Emblem and Motto of the USARAK NCO Academy was created and established on March 1st, 2008. This change was initiated by the Commandant in recognizing the need to establish an identity and linkage to the “Warrior Leader” focus in the first level of the NCO Professional Military Education System. The symbolism behind the design represents the NCO Academy’s commitment to provide exceptional training and mentorship while further instilling discipline and the Army’s core values within the most professional and capable Soldier...The SERGEANT.

Description: The Emblem and Motto are derived by embedding the mission and objectives of the NCO Professional Military Education System while emphasizing the close relationship of USARAK to the Alaskan community. This icon contains five distinct parts:

- a. Bald Eagle Poised for Action
- b. Special Designation “Guardian of Standards”
- c. State of Alaska as the Background and Colored in Blue
- d. Unit Motto “Warriors by Trade, Professionals by Choice”
- e. Sergeant Rank Completing the Circle around the Emblem

Symbolism: The central element, the Bald Eagle, is the official emblem of the United States with Alaska containing the world's largest concentration. Bald (white) heads do not appear until the chicks have fully matured. Only then are these ordinary birds transformed into the spectacular specimens that are so highly respected and symbolized after our American Freedoms, Spirit and Pursuit of Excellence. This is a representation of the evolution that occurs when a Soldier is inducted into the NCO ranks and is first called a Sergeant. It is this Sergeant that must always lead by example, know the Standards, and enforce them. The Sergeant is, in fact, the very "Guardian of Standards" that invokes skillful and dedicated performance in their Soldiers. The State of Alaska is presented in national blue as depicted in its flag showing USARAK's ties and commitment to the state. The Motto, "Warriors by Trade," espouse the tenets of the Warrior Ethos that every Soldier embodies above their chosen military profession. A Noncommissioned Officer makes a conscious effort to always set a good example and to do the Right Thing. It is these laurels and guidance of the NCO Creed that compels a Sergeant to be a "Professional by Choice". The rank of Sergeant completes the circle around the emblem symbolizing the importance of this rank. The NCO Academy is dedicated in developing the fundamentals of Leadership, improving self-discipline, and presenting the importance of taking care of Soldiers and their families for every Sergeant that enters its doors.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS CHRISTOPHER R. BREVARD



SFC Christopher R. Brevard of Wasilla, Alaska was born on October 17, 1975 in St Louis, MO. He is a graduate of Diamond High School in Anchorage, AK, Central Texas College, and the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute in Deer Valley, AZ.

SFC Brevard entered the Army on December 14th, 1992 in Anchorage, AK. From 1992-1994 he was assigned to the 813th Engineer Battalion Reserves as an 88M, a position he affectionately referred to as being “just a Truck Driver”. From 1994-1997 SFC Brevard was assigned to D Co, 46th Support Battalion at Fort Richardson, AK. From 1998-2001 he was assigned to the 84th Chemical Battalion at Fort Leonardwood, MO. In October 2001, he was assigned to 1-501st Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) at Fort Richardson, AK and reclassified from 88M to 11B. From February 2003 to February 2005 SFC Brevard was an NCO Academy Instructor at Ft. Richardson, AK. From February 2005, he held the position of Weapons Squad Leader for 2nd Platoon, Alpha Co, 1-501st PIR, Fort Richardson.

SFC Brevard’s awards, decorations, and accomplishments include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal with two Knots, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 2, National Defense Service Medal with one Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with Numeral 2, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman’s Badge, Expert Infantryman’s Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Air assault Badge, Expert Marksmanship Badge, and Drivers Badge. SFC Brevard was an Honor Graduate of the US Army Ranger School.

SFC Brevard's hobbies include skydiving, motorcycles, baseball and camping. He was an avid snow-machiner and 4-wheeler.

SFC Brevard was killed in action on March 16, 2007 in Jurf as Sukr, Iraq by an IED. He is survived by his wife, Amber, his daughters Emily and Jessica, and his parents Christopher and Michelle Brevard.

On 12 September 2008 an honor ceremony was held officially renaming the former Fort Richardson NCO Academy to the SFC Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy

CHAPTER 1

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description: The Basic Leader Course (BLC) is the first step of five levels in the Noncommissioned Officer Education System. BLC is a 22-day Program of Instruction (POI) which is non-MOS specific, taught in a live-out environment (at the discretion of the Commandant), using classroom instruction with practical application, followed by hands-on performance-oriented training conducted in a field environment, culminating with an extensive situational training exercise (STX). BLC produces battle-competent junior NCOs who are qualified team/section/squad leaders, trainers of leaders and war fighting skills. The NCOA graduates are evaluators and counselors, conductors/participants in individual and collective training, and performers/teachers of leader skills, knowledge and attitudes. BLC instills self-discipline, professional ethics and establishes the foundation for follow-on training in leader development.

Course Design: The POI contains three blocks of instruction: Leadership, Training, and Warfighting Skills. The United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) has designed an educational philosophy to challenge the students through a thorough academic regime. BLC tests a students' comprehension of the subject matter by using train-the-trainer techniques and performance evaluations. The POI enhances those skills with which students are familiar and develops new skills that students will need in the performance of their future NCO duties.

The proponent for the BLC is the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA). This course is conducted using the small group process and encompasses a total of 170 total academic hours. Current subjects included by area are:

□ Leadership: (48 Hours)	HRS
- Commandant's Orientation	1
- Introduction to Basic Leader Course	2
- Army Leadership	7
- Developmental Counseling	7
- Army Correspondence	4
- History of the Army and the Noncommissioned Officer	4
- NCOER	5
- Sexual Assault Prevention and Response	3
- Personnel Recovery	2
- Effects of Culture	2
- Resilience	2
- Military Justice and Discipline	2
- Suicide Prevention for Junior Leaders	2
- Leadership Examination	2
- Ethical Problem Solving	1
- NCOES Initiatives	2

<input type="checkbox"/> Training: (43 Hours)	
- Risk Management	2
- After Action Review	1
- Training Management	5
- Conduct Individual Training	5
- Health and Fitness	15
- Drill and Ceremonies	4
- Supply Procedures	4
- Training Examination	2
- Height and Weight	2
- APFT	3
<input type="checkbox"/> War-Fighting: (79 Hours)	
- Small Unit Combat Operations According to the Law of War	2
- Combat Orders	6
- Team and Squad Movement Techniques	6
- Tactical Site Exploitation	2
- Tactical Operations	5
- Tactical Reports and Requests	2
- Casualty Evacuation	2
- War-Fighting Examination	2
- Situational Training Exercise (STX)	36
- Map Reading	8
- Land Navigation	8
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Study Training: (28 Hours)	
- Study Hall	8
- Training Support Activities	15
- Student Counseling	5
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Time: (6 Hours)	
- In-processing	2
- Out-processing	2
- Graduation	2

Prerequisites: Students must meet the following course prerequisites:

- Recommended by the immediate unit commander to attend BLC
- Completion of Self Structured Development 1 (SSD-1)
- Pass the APFT and body fat composition standards in accordance with FM 7-22 and AR 600-9 within the past 30 days

- Eligible for reenlistment
 - Complete a periodic physical exam or a periodic health assessment within the last year
 - No physical profile that prevents completing course graduation requirements (Exception--Soldiers with temporary profiles due to participation in OIF/OEF). If the Soldier was on a temporary profile prior to the course he/she must have had the proper amount of recovery time from the profile in order to be accepted into the course. Students must be able to meet the following physical requirements during the course:
 - Conduct, demonstrate, and lead physical readiness training
 - Negotiate rough terrain under varying climatic conditions.
 - Walk a minimum of 3200 meters with load carrying equipment (LCE) in a minimum of three hours.
 - Lift and carry all required packing list items (OCIE and CTA 50-900) for short distances.
 - Carry a 48 pound combat load that contains mission essential equipment (weapon, helmet, uniform, LCE included in 48 lbs).
 - Lift and carry fuel, water, ammo, MREs, or sandbags occasionally
 - Low crawl, high crawl, and rush for three to five seconds
 - Move over, through, and around obstacles
 - Carry and fire individually assigned weapon
 - No flagging action pending
 - No appointments pending
 - No previous convictions of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence (Lautenberg Amendment).
 - Follow the SFC Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy Pre-Execution Checklist and the Army Schools System (TASS) Unit Pre-Execution Checklist. Checklists are available on the website.
-

Enrollment Requirements:

- Have a current and active PWLN account.
- Have all packing list items accountable and serviceable required to attend the course.
- Soldiers attending the NCOA must meet body fat composition standards according to AR 600-9. If Soldier fails HT/WT screening, one re-test will be administered no earlier than seven days after initial screening. Soldiers still failing to meet body fat composition standards will be considered for dismissal.
- Soldiers must have all profiles approved by the NCOA Commandant **PRIOR** to enrollment. Questions should be directed to BLC Student Operations/Administration at 907-384-6829.

Duty Uniform: The duty uniform for the BLC is the Army Combat Uniform (ACU) or Operational Combat Uniform (OCP) with Patrol Cap (NOTE: ASU will be worn for graduation and mentorship dinner). Uniform and grooming standards will be enforced per AR 670-1. A complete Physical Fitness Uniform (IPFU/APFU) will be required IAW the NCOA training schedule.

Phone Calls and Cell Phones: Official military calls may be made from the military phones in the Academy Area during breaks. Students may bring personal cell phones; however, they can only be used on the students' evening personal time. Cell phones may be carried and used as necessary when directed by NCOA leadership.

AT NO TIME ARE CELL PHONES ALLOWED DURING TESTING.

Privately Owned Vehicles (POV): Privately owned vehicles must be parked in the student's unit area. Students are not authorized to park in the Academy area. All POVs must meet post and state safety inspection and installation registration requirements. When students are allowed to go home, the use of a POV is authorized. Once POVs are parked for the day, students are not allowed to go back to their POV unless permission is given by the NCOA leadership.

Permanent Profiles: Soldiers who have a permanent profile designator of "3" or "4" must include a copy of their DA Form 3349 and the results of their military medical review board (MMRB) as part of course application. For students with P3/P4 profiles, ensure that the profiling doctor and the approving authority doctors have signed the profile. The commander does not need to sign the profile, unless he disagrees with the profile.

P2 profiles only need the signature of the profiling doctor. Soldiers with a P2 profiles must be able to meet course physical requirements. Soldiers who have been before an MMRB, or similar board, awarded medical limitations and allowed to retain their occupational classification, may attend BLC and train within the limitations of their profile, provided they can otherwise meet course prerequisites and graduation requirements.

Students must have their profiles reviewed by the Academy **PRIOR** to attendance. This will prevent students from being denied entry and the unit losing a training seat.

Temporary Profiles: The Academy will deny enrollment to Soldiers who hold a temporary profile except for shaving, non-performance deterring profiles, and profiles due to participation in OIF/OEF. If the Soldier was on a temporary profile prior to the course he/she must have had the proper amount of recovery time from the profile in order to be accepted into the course. In the case of Battle Zone profiles, Soldiers must arrive with a copy of their current temporary profile and a memorandum bearing the commander's signature stating the profile exists as a result of injuries during participation in OIF/OEF. The Soldiers will train within the limits of their profiles.

Soldiers diagnosed as pregnant after enrollment may continue training, provided the attending physician determines the Soldier may continue. Pregnant Soldiers must provide a copy of the attending physician's recommendation.

Any Soldier medically dismissed from the academy after enrollment may return to the course when the condition that led to the medical dismissal no longer exists.

Wounded Warrior: Commandants will not deny enrollment or disenrollment of Soldiers based on physical profiles resulting from MMEB or MEB rulings. Soldiers previously unable to meet course requirements as a result of physical limitations formally acknowledged by either the wounded warriors program and/or a permanent profile as a result of a MOS/medical retention board, or medical evaluation board, and properly documented using the military physical profile for physical condition/stamina, upper extremities, lower extremities, hearing/ear, eyes, psychiatric (PULHES) code, can attend BLC. Waivers are authorized to adjust or waive graduation requirements to these Soldiers for enrollment and attendance at the NCO Academy.

Weight Control: All students will be administered the initial height/weight at their unit within 30-days prior to the course date to verify AR 600-9 standards. Soldiers flagged for weight control failure will **NOT** be selected, scheduled, or attend BLC.

Soldiers enrolled in BLC that fail AR 600-9 body fat standards will not be automatically removed from the course. However, any student that fails the body fat composition test and is deemed a potential health risk by the Commandant will be taken to the TMC for medical clearance. If medical clearance is not given by the medical screening agent, the student will be dismissed from the course.

One height/weight and tape retest is allowed and will be administered no earlier than seven days after the initial height/weight. Soldiers who fail to meet the height/weight standards will be recommended for removal from the course and receive a DA 1059 with remarks of failing to meet height/weight standards. They will be able to re-attend the course after six months and they meet the Army height/weight standards.

Preparation Recommendations: Because of the stressful environment and rapid pace of the BLC curriculum, it would tremendously benefit the Soldier to start their preparation well before the course date. Below are recommend areas to concentrate efforts in having a complete understanding and in some cases have memorized:

- Gain understanding of the Army Writing Style. DA publishes guidance in Preparing and Managing Correspondence in AR 25-50. You will be evaluated on your sound Army writing abilities while attending BLC.
- Gain understanding and the ability to drill at the squad level. DA publishes guidance in Drill and Ceremony in FM 3-21.5. You will be evaluated on your abilities to conduct squad drill while attending BLC.

□ Soldier Common Tasks (Skill Levels 1 and 2). DA publishes guidance in the Soldier's Manual of Common Tasks (SMCT). No Level 1 Warrior Skills are taught while attending BLC, but you are expected to perform these tasks throughout the course curriculum. Pay particular attention to Composite Risk Management and Operation Orders.

Religious Services: The Fort Richardson area offers several religious services at different locations. Information on these locations and times can be obtained from the Fort Richardson Family Life Center, Building 714 or call (907) 384 5433.

Visitors: Visitors other than sponsors and student chain of command are not allowed in the Academy Area unless approved by the Commandant. All visitors will be in duty uniform (I.E. ACUs or Flight Suites...not PT uniforms) to include weekends and holidays. Visitors must park in the parking lot across from Bldg 1101, link up with the Chief of Training in Bldg 1101 and request the student by roster number. The Chief of Training will escort the visitor to Bldg 1104 or arrange for visitation in some other authorized area of the academy (Student living areas are off limits to visitors).

Sponsors can conduct a "positive hand-off" of an item to the BLC Operations office or the Chief of training in Bldg 1101.

Student's Chain of Command/NCO Support Channel may eat with their Soldiers at the DFAC. Coordination for this visitation should be done at least 24 hours in advance. To schedule a visit and get information about what days the students will be eating in the DFAC call the Chief of Training at 384-0493 or the Operations section at 384-6829.

If student meets cut-off for promotion their Chain of Command can arrange to have the promotion ceremony at the unit. Call the Chief of Training or Operations Section to coordinate this event.

CHAPTER 2

STUDENT ADMINISTRATION

Student Conduct: The NCOA trains and enforces the standards of the United States Army as prescribed by appropriate regulations, traditions and directives. It is the student's responsibility to maintain this standard during the course of instruction and throughout their military career. While on and off duty, you will maintain high standards of appearance and conduct. Misconduct of any type, no matter how small, may result in an immediate disciplinary dismissal.

Attendance: Attendance at all training events is mandatory for all students. Any student who has an official or medical appointment, quarters, or any emergency that causes him to miss more than **four** hours (special circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Commandant) of programmed instruction will be considered for release from the course. The training is critical and time does not permit the student to recover before moving on to other subject material.

Appointments: There will be no scheduled appointments during your attendance at the Academy. For circumstances beyond your control, the appointment slip must be presented at in-processing. All appointments scheduled during the course will be handled per your Senior Small Group Leader's guidance.

Absences: Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Students missing more than *four hours* of training will be considered for release from the course. If an absence is foreseen, prior coordination with the Small Group Leader (SGL) is required. In the case of an emergency, the Senior SGL / Chief of Training will be notified immediately; if unavailable notify the SDNCO in BLDG# 1101, Cell 907-529-0604.

Leave, Passes and Commandants Time: Alcohol will **NOT** be consumed at any time during the course, including Commandant's times/passes. Passes are only authorized during scheduled Commandant's time and will not exceed the limits of Fort Richardson cantonment area and local area (30 mile radius).

Ordinary leave and special passes are not authorized from their unit while a student is at the NCO Academy. In the event of an emergency requiring leave, Soldiers will be administratively released from the course. To expedite processing, your unit should immediately notify the NCO Academy Operations Office and deliver any Red Cross messages with a unit letter of release.

Formations: Formations are held by the student chain of command and the report is given to the SGL present. Once the command of "Fall In" is given anyone outside the formation is considered late or absent, and will receive disciplinary counseling. Two disciplinary counseling's for being late may result in dismissal from the course. Student leaders will station themselves so as to exercise the maximum possible control over the formation IAW FM 3-21.5 (Drill & Ceremonies). Student leaders will post road guards where necessary while marching.

Physical Fitness: Physical Readiness Training (PRT) will vary daily. Physical Readiness Training is an evaluated activity and focuses on correct form and method, not on APFT improvement.

Billeting: All students will maintain a room in the NCO Academy billets. Designated rooms for male and female Soldiers are established. All rooms will be maintained in a high state of police at all times. Students residing in the Billets will be subject to room checks at any time to ensure health and welfare. Billets and the area surrounding the Academy will be maintained and prepared for inspection at all times.

Quiet hours are from 2200-0500. Lights-out will be IAW the current class training schedule. Students will be in their designated billets during quiet hours. The SDNCO will conduct a check at quiet hours (2200) with the student First Sergeant to ensure all students are in their billets and Academy-wide quiet hours are adhered to.

There is no use of tobacco products in the billets or any building at the NCO Academy. Students are allowed to smoke in designated areas only.

Laundry: Washers and dryers are located in each billeting area for student use.

Dining Facility: Every student attending the NCO Academy will be provided meals at government expense through the supporting dining facility. No food, drinks, or utensils (to include coffee or cups) will be removed from the dining facility. All students are required to have a field meal card.

Medical Care: Issuance of Quarters and missing more than *four hours* of training or will be considered for release from the course.

All sick call requests (to include field training) will be handled by the Academy SDO in Bldg 1101 from 0600 – 0630 daily. The SDNCO will provide transportation to the proper medical facility.

Soldiers receiving profiles will continue to train to the maximum extent of their profile, pending an evaluation by the Commandant for continued enrollment.

In cases of any Emergency Medical situations while in a “live-out” status, students are to report to the Emergency Room and contact the Senior SGL/SDNCO and Student Chain of Command when the situation allows. During Emergency Medical situations within the Academy, notify the SGL, Senior Cadre or SDNCO who will take charge and determine method of transport to the Emergency Room.

Postal Service: The Senior Small Group Instructor will distribute mail at 1700 hours. If students desire their unit to forward mail to them, they must use the Academy mailing address:

Soldier's Rank/Name and Roster Number, BLC (Class Number)
NCO Academy 724 Postal Service Loop #2800
JBER, AK 99505

Complaints and Counseling: The Commandant has an open door policy. NCOA Policy #2, Students are encouraged to utilize the cadre chain of command prior to seeking the Commandant's assistance. The Senior Small Group Leaders (SSGLs) and Small Group Leaders (SGLs) are available for counseling at any time. Students need only inform a cadre member of their need for counseling and arrangements will be made. Academically deficient students are required to receive counseling. Counseling of all students by the SGL will be on a regular basis.

Crime Prevention: Crime prevention is the responsibility of all personnel assigned to the Academy. Individuals are responsible for providing adequate locks for their wall lockers and duffel bags and must keep them locked when not in use. Individuals should not bring high dollar items (\$50.00 value or more). In the event of a break-in or theft, the individual suffering the loss should immediately report the loss to the SDNCO or other Cadre member and give all the details pertaining to the loss. Military Police are not notified without permission from the BLC COT, Deputy Commandant or Commandant except in cases of extreme emergency.

CHAPTER 3 INSTRUCTIONAL INFORMATION

In-processing: Soldiers reporting for training must have in their possession or turned in prior to roll call, a completed and properly signed TASS pre-execution checklist. If a Soldier reports for training without a checklist signed by the Soldier and Soldier's commander, they have 72 hours from the report date to provide the checklist with appropriate attachments. Soldiers will be returned to their units who fail to provide the checklist within this time frame. The unit commander's signature on the pre-execution checklist certifies that the Soldier meets routine course prerequisites.

All JBER students will report to Bldg 1101 parking lot by **0945** hours in ACU/OCP uniform on the prescribed zero-day. Roll call and accountability will begin at **1000** hours. All FWA students will report to Bldg 1101 upon arrival at the academy.

Students must have in their possession:

- I.D. Card/Tags
- All Physical Profiles
- Weapon with **NO** mounted blank adapter, optics or laser
- Meal Card

Day 1: All students will report to Building 1101 parking lot by **0545** hours in seasonal IPFU/APFU, roll call and accountability will begin at **0600** hours. Students must have in their possession:

- All clothing and equipment on the packing list

After roll call and all students have been verified, the SGLs will conduct HT/WT screening and a packing list layout using the enclosed packing lists. Missing or unserviceable items will result in the Soldiers immediate dismissal from the course.

Graduation Requirements: Students must score 70 percent or higher on the following graduation requirements:

- Army Physical Fitness Test (60 Points each event)
- Army Physical Readiness Training Evaluation
- Individual Training Evaluation
- Squad Drill Evaluation
- Army Writing Examination
- Oral History Briefing
- Land Navigation
- Two demonstrated Leadership Evaluations (garrison and tactical environment)

- Leadership Examination
 - Training Examination
 - War Fighting Examination
-

Academic Recognition: All students who have exceeded course requirements will be recognized upon completion of the course. In order for a student to be considered for any academic award, that student must achieve an initial passing score in all tested areas, receive **NO** adverse counseling statements and meet the following criteria:

- Distinguished Honor Graduate : This graduate is the student who demonstrated superior academic achievement by attain the highest overall academic average in the class while receiving SUPERIOR ratings in three of the four evaluated areas in Block 12a thru d on the AER.

The Honor Graduate receives a Certificate of Achievement (COA) from the USARAK CG (5-Promotion Points); USARAK CG/CSM and Commandant Coins for Excellence; and other honors.

- Commandants List Graduates: These graduates will not exceed 20 percent of the class enrollment including the Distinguished Honor Graduate. The student must receive a superior rating in three of the four evaluated areas in Block 12a thru 12d on the AER.

These Graduates receive an overall performance summary of “Exceeded Course Standards” in block 11a of the AER (DA form 1059).

- Distinguished Leadership Award: There is only one leadership award recipient. Nominees must have received a superior rating in Block12c (Leadership Skills) and are selected by each of the group peers (validated by SGL) to appear before a board of their classmates. The board will designate the leadership award to the nominee who receives the board's highest evaluation.

The Leadership Award Winner receives a Certificate of Achievement (COA) from the USARAK CG (5-Promotion Points); USARAK CG/CSM and Commandant Coins for Excellence; and other honors.

- APFT Award: Awarded to the student achieving the highest score on the Army Physical Fitness Test.

The APFT winner receives a Certificate of Achievement (COA) from the USARAK CG (5-Promotion Points); USARAK CG/CSM and Commandant Coins for Excellence; and other honors.

- **Safety Award:** The safety award is presented to any NCO Academy staff, Cadre or student who throughout the course made a significant individual contribution that aided in safety awareness and promoted a safe training environment. Recommendations are made by the First Sergeant, Chief of Training and Academy Safety NCO with final selection made by the Commandant.

This individual receives a Certificate of Achievement (COA) from the Commandant.

Graduation: Upon graduating from BLC all students will receive a copy of their DA1059. All students will have a ranking on their DA1059 according to how they did in the course compared to their classmates. Graduation is held on the last day of the cycle, or class, at 1000hrs at the Fort Richardson Post Theater or otherwise designated area. The student uniform for graduation is ASUs. Units Chain of Command, fellow Soldiers, family members and friends are encourage to attend with the availability to take pictures throughout the ceremony. Fort Wainwright Soldiers are able to travel back to home station if actions have been taken to secure weapons and approved by their unit commanders and the NCOA Commandant **PRIOR** to the start of the course.

Academic Probation: Soldiers failing any performance evaluation or written test will be placed on academic probation and will be subject to the following:

- Removed from all honors
 - Receive a DA Form 4856 outlining the short coming as well as the plan of action that will be followed to ensure the successful completion of the failed evaluation.
-

Student Dismissal: The Commandant may release students prior to graduation. A release for any reason becomes a permanent part of an individual's military record. A DA Form 1059 (Academic Evaluation Report) is completed, stating the reason for release, with a copy forwarded to the appropriate Human Resource Center (HRC) and the student's unit.

Academy personnel will only release a student dismissed from the course to a member of the Soldier's chain of Command (Platoon Sergeant or above). The parent units are responsible for providing all transportation requirements for those Soldiers dismissed from the course regardless of the category. This becomes very challenging for Fort Wainwright Soldiers and the academy will assist when possible, but the burden still remains on the parent unit.

Students released for disciplinary reasons may not attend BLC for six months. Students released for academic, compassionate or administrative reasons may return to BLC as soon as the unit determines that the student is ready to complete the course. Soldiers who are released from the course must start at the beginning of the course upon re-enrollment. Below are the categories for dismissal:

Academic deficiencies: Soldiers who fail to achieve a minimum score of 70% on a re-test examination or fail to receive a "GO" on a re-test performance evaluation will be released as an academic failure. **Only one re-test is authorized.**

Disciplinary: Soldiers who fail to demonstrate the personal characteristics, behavior, attitude, conduct, or overall performance expected of a Noncommissioned Officer. The following are reasons for a disciplinary release, but are not inclusive:

- Sexual harassment/ EO Violation
- Disrespect to Cadre/ Insubordination
- Unexcused Absence/ Late (2 times)
- Alcohol, intoxicants and controlled substance related offenses
- Honor Code violations
- UCMJ violations
- Lack of motivation (apathy)

Medical Release: This is initiated when a student is injured and cannot complete the remainder of the course due to temporary performance deterring profile or illness requiring extended care. Soldiers who obtain a temporary limiting profile that prevents them from meeting graduation, physical or academic requirements will be referred for dismissal. Medical releases do not reflect on the individuals conduct or efficiency. The following reasons are cause for medical release from the NCO Academy:

- Temporary profiles which prevent the student from meeting minimum course requirements.
- Extended Bed Rest/Quarters

Administrative: Are made without prejudice and results from circumstances beyond the student's control. Administrative releases will not reflect on an individual's conduct or efficiency and written notice will be made informing the unit that the Soldier may re-enroll as soon as convenient). The following are examples of Administrative Releases:

-Compassionate release. A result of extenuating personal circumstances which prevent the student from completing the course. The Commandant is the approving authority for all student releases.

-Unit recall. The student's Chain of Command and the Commandant evaluate each request individually.

Clearing Procedures: The following are completed at the time of out-processing:

- Students training materials/equipment are recovered, inventoried, and stored.
- Student's weapons issued back to the student or picked up by unit, and any TA-50 issued by supply for foreign Soldiers is returned by 1500 hrs the day prior.
- Students receive comprehensive end of course developmental counseling. A copy of Developmental Counseling is given to the student.
- Student's Academic Evaluation Report (DA Form 1059) prepared.
- DA Form 1059s, diplomas, and certificates are issued following graduation.
- Classrooms and barracks are inspected for cleanliness and neatness.

CHAPTER 4

STUDENT ORGANIZATION

General: The student chain of command/NCO Support Channel is designed to give students the opportunity to function in a leadership position. Students will exercise the authority and assume the responsibilities for the position to which they are assigned.

Assignments to leadership positions are rotated. Responsibility for the enforcement, control and discipline rests with the student leadership. Students will be put in one of the following leadership positions: First Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Squad Leader or Team Leader. You will be formally evaluated in either the Squad Leader or Team Leader positions. You must clearly understand that you are a student and must perform and respond to orders of the student leadership and Cadre.

Duties and Responsibilities: In general all student leaders will be responsible for and evaluated on the following:

- Demonstrating initiative
 - Motivating subordinates
 - Assigning tasks to subordinates
 - Communicating effectively
 - Welfare of subordinates
 - Acting in a timely manner
 - Making on-the-spot corrections
 - Demonstrating troop-leading procedures
-

First Sergeant:

- Supervising details assigned to the company, ensuring platoon sergeants understand and accomplish tasks in a timely manner and ensure a fair workload for all platoons.
- Forming the company and conducting formations IAW FM 3-21.5(Drill & Ceremonies)
- Ensuring that all personnel are in the prescribed uniform as indicated on the training schedule
- Ensuring all information is disseminated from the daily meeting with the Staff Duty

Platoon Sergeant:

- Supervising details assigned to the platoon, ensuring squad leaders and platoon members understand and accomplish tasks in a timely manner and ensure a fair workload for all squads
 - Forming the platoon promptly and conducting formations IAW FM 3-21.5(Drill & Ceremonies) and rendering true and accurate reports
 - Ensuring that all personnel are in the prescribed uniform as indicated on the training schedule
 - Ensuring all information is disseminated from the daily meeting with the Student First Sergeant
-

Squad Leader:

- Assisting the PSG by exercising control over the squad and correcting all deficiencies
- Supervising details assigned to the squad, ensuring team leaders and squad members understand and accomplish tasks in a timely manner and ensure a fair workload for all soldiers
- Control and discipline of soldiers at all times
- Soldiers being present and in the correct uniform for all formations
- Soldiers are formed and ready for instruction on the date and time cited in the training schedule
- Inspections of Soldiers and barracks IAW established Academy policy and appropriate military regulations
- Police of assigned areas and class facilities. Ensure the classroom is prepared for the next day at the end of each day's training
- Accountability of personnel

Team Leader:

- Assisting the Squad Leader by exercising control over the team
- Duties are the same as those of Squad Leader listed above
- Supervising details assigned to the team, ensuring team leaders understand and accomplish tasks in a timely manner and ensure a fair workload for all Soldiers
- Control and discipline of Soldiers at all times
- Soldiers being present and in the correct uniform for all formations
- Soldiers are formed and ready for instruction on the date and time cited in the training schedule
- Inspections of Soldiers and barracks IAW established Academy policy and appropriate military regulations
- Police of assigned areas and class facilities
- Ensure the classroom is prepared for the next day at the end of each day's training
- Accountability of personnel

CHAPTER 5

STUDENT STANDARDS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

General: The Noncommissioned Officers Academy is dedicated to the principle of "Lead by Example." Standards are high yet attainable. The conduct of student's must be in compliance with Department of the Army, Fort Richardson and NCO Academy regulations and policies. Students are representatives of the Noncommissioned Officers Corps and are expected to conduct themselves accordingly. All students are managed as Noncommissioned officers and expected to act as Noncommissioned officers.

Honor Code: Honor is the guiding principle of every endeavor involving the profession of the Army. Integrity is a basic attribute demanded of every Noncommissioned Officer. This personal quality requires, among other things, that "Your work must be your own." Examinations and performance oriented training evaluations are given throughout the course. Each individual student prepares presentations. This work is evaluated based on individual effort. Each student's work will be entirely original in every manner. The copying of another student's work violates the intent of the Honor Code. Students are encouraged to work together, utilizing the team concept; however, the final result will be original. The honor system does not cease with academic honor and integrity. It also applies to the observance and adherence to rules, regulations and policies. To knowingly violate a rule, regulation or policy whether or not this violation is discovered, is a discredit to your own word of honor. It is your responsibility as a student and as a Noncommissioned Officer to report violations of rules, regulations and policies immediately to the chain of command. Failure to do so is a violation of the Honor Code and is grounds for dismissal.

Military Courtesies: Students will maintain the highest standards of military courtesy on and off-post while assigned to the Academy. Appropriate greetings and courtesies for passing/visiting officers and NCOs will be rendered. One important exception is when classes are in progress. Students will render appropriate customs and courtesies, however training will not stop unless specifically instructed to do so by a cadre member. The following key factors will be highly enforced:

- Cadre will be referred to by their rank and last name
- Students will be referred to as "Sergeant" by cadre and peers while attending BLC regardless of actual rank
- Students will assume the position of "parade rest" while in the presence of any NCO until told to do otherwise.

Uniform/Appearance/Hygiene: Each student must strive to attain and maintain the high standards which are indicative of all professional Soldiers in the Noncommissioned Officers Corps, and will conform to the standards prescribed by AR 670-1:

- Students will maintain a clean and neat military appearance at all times. Male Soldiers will shave prior to Physical Training formation each day. Mustaches are authorized, but must be in compliance with AR 670-1. Jewelry is to be worn IAW AR 670-1.
 - Clothing will be clean and serviceable.
 - Unit insignia, chevrons, nametags, US Army tags, and cloth badges will be correctly positioned IAW AR 670-1.
-

Classroom Guidelines: There is no tobacco use, gum chewing, or eating in class. Sodas, coffee, and other drinks are permitted (MUST HAVE A LID) **EXCEPT** during examinations. The classrooms will be left clean and orderly at all times.

Maintenance and R&U: All Soldiers are responsible to report any inoperative, broken, damaged or missing items throughout the Academy area to the student Chain of Command. The Student First Sergeant will turn in a consolidated list of maintenance requirements to the SSGL.

Areas of Responsibility: The student Chain of Command is responsible for the upkeep and police of the Academy buildings and outside areas. Areas of responsibilities are inspected daily and include:

Accomplished by start of day (First Formation):

- Beds made and male students shaved prior to first formation
- Accomplished by 0900 (Barracks Standards):
- Common Areas cleaned: Day Rooms/Laundry Rooms/Snack Rooms (furniture wiped down and in original configuration, floors vacuumed/mopped, trash free, mops and brooms cleaned, neat storage areas).
 - Personal rooms cleaned (furniture/windows wiped down, floors vacuumed, and trash taken out) and properly displayed IAW this SOP.

- Latrines (showers/ sinks/ toilets/ mirrors wiped down, floors mopped, toilet paper replaced, trash removed).
- Lights out when not in use

Accomplished by 2200 (Classroom Standards):

- Common Areas cleaned: Break Room/Copy Room/Latrines (furniture wiped down and in original configuration, floors mopped sinks/toilets/mirrors wiped down, toilet paper replaced, trash removed, mops, brooms and vacuums cleaned, neat storage areas).
 - Group Rooms Cleaned (Furniture wiped down and in original configuration, floors vacuumed, trash removed).
-

Crime Prevention: Crime prevention is the responsibility of all personnel attending the Academy. Students are responsible for providing adequate locks for their personal drawers and duffel bags and must keep them locked when not in use. Below are other areas of concern:

- Valuables: Individuals are responsible for providing adequate locks for their wall lockers and duffel bags and must keep them locked when not in use. Individuals should not bring high dollar items or excessive cash (more than \$50.00). Students will secure their valuables (money, CAC cards, etc.) when not physically present in their rooms. The NCO Academy is not responsible for lost or stolen items which a student fails to secure. In the unlikely event that any of your valuables or property is missing, immediately notify an SGL and they will contact the Military Police.
- Closet Security: Closets and two drawer chest will be secured when not in use by the assigned student and from the start of quiet hours until first call. Excess cash will not be brought to or stored in the Academy area. At no time will change, checkbooks, credit cards, etc., be left unsecured in the billets.
- Weapons Security: Positive control of weapons and sensitive items will be maintained. Students not in physical possession of their assigned weapon when issued will be recommended for disciplinary release. Weapons will be accounted for at all times from the time the weapon is issued until it is turned over to the Sponsor. Weapons and sensitive items will be within an arm's reach at all times.

Prohibited Items: Unauthorized items will be confiscated and may lead to the release of a student from the course if found in their possession. Students are not authorized to bring or possess the following items at the academy:

- Any type of privately owned weapon
 - Any knife having a switch or automatic blade length or blade more than 3 inches
 - Brass knuckles or any device fitting over the hand and used as a striking device
 - Blackjacks, slappers or related devices
 - Straight razors or razors other than normally used for shaving
 - Ammunition of any type (including fireworks)
 - Homemade percussion type weapons or articles not associated with everyday use, which can be considered dangerous
 - Controlled substances. Any current prescribed medications must be brought to the SGL's attention IMMEDIATELY.
 - Flammables (i.e., paint, paste wax, lighter fluid)
 - Pornographic material, or material that can be offensive in nature
-

Areas OFF Limits to Students:

- The entrance and stairway on the East End of Bldg #1101 (Commandant's entrance) except when:
 - Conducting Academy maintenance or area beautification during Commandants Time.
 - Directed to report to one of the offices by a member of the cadre or staff and accompanied by their Small Group Leader.
- Cadre offices unless told to report
- Cadre billets and/or latrines
- Female Rooms to male Soldiers and vice versa

Safety:

□ Risk Assessments: A deliberate risk assessment worksheet (Fig I-1) will be prepared for each major training activity/operation IAW AR 385-10 and DA Pam 385-1. In addition, a daily deliberate risk assessment will be prepared by each student leader. The student leader and SGL will review and correct the student leaders daily risk assessment prior to the start of training and both will sign it.

□ Training Safety: All appropriate U.S. Army and Post Regulations apply as necessary. Additionally, each individual is reminded that safety is paramount during all training.

-Pyrotechnics: It is the policy of this Academy that under no circumstances will pyrotechnics be issued or detonated by any student undergoing training.

-Blank Ammunition: Weapons must be pointed away from personnel at all times within close quarters (20 feet). Blank firing adapters must be affixed throughout training.

-Duds: Mark and report duds. **DO NOT TOUCH** or attempt to use unexploded ammunition/pyrotechnics.

-Avoid Animals: In the event of bites by animals MEDEVAC the affected individual ASAP. All tactical training will cease until the injured person is removed.

-Water Dangers: Water higher than knee level is not authorized to be forded or crossed. Avoid all creeks and swamps by maneuvering around them.

□ Heater Safety: Students will not light, refuel or adjust any stove or heater. Student will be briefed on this prior to the beginning of the STX. Only qualified cadre can light, refuel and supervise assembly of heaters. Remember to never mix fuels (e.g. mogas and diesel). When the tent is empty the heater is turned off and watched until it has cooled down. When the heater is in operation at least one person remains awake, inside the tent, and in uniform to ensure the heater continues to operate properly. Do not operate any heater without a fire extinguisher (CO2) present. There will be a fire extinguisher located in the center of each tent. If the stove should go out when the tent is occupied:

-Remove fuel can from tri-pod (if applicable)

-Turn off fuel valve (if applicable)

-Remove everyone from the tent.

-Notify SGL for relight

□ Fuel: Store and transport fuel in 5 gallon cans marked appropriately (e.g. mogas = red, diesel=yellow, kerosene=white). Place the fuel on the designated fuel pad away from any tent, ammo point or generator (CADRE SUPERVISES MOVEMENT AND STORAGE OF FUEL). Return excess fuel to the academy fuel point. During cold weather, fuel cans will be handled with insulated rubber gloves only.

- Marching: When marching outside the academy area, road guards with reflective vests or straps will be used. The formation will march with traffic.

- Physical Fitness: When running outside the academy area, road guards with reflective vests or straps will be used. The formation will run with traffic. During hours of darkness, road guards will use flashlights as well. Elements will be no smaller than squad level.

- Winter:
 - Identify students with previous cold weather injuries. During field training mark the students with red tape around the left and right side of the helmet camouflage band, and around epaulet on front of the cold weather parka (under rank).
 - Ensure students are in correct uniform prior to training in a cold weather environment.
 - Conduct a PCI prior to departing for training to ensure students have the required equipment.
 - Ensure PT is conducted inside when the temperature is below -20 degrees (F).
 - Conduct cold weather injury checks every two hours at a minimum on all students when training outside in garrison or field environment (hands, feet, and any exposed skin areas).
 - Transmit cold weather checks to the TOC every two hours.
 - Monitor students for heat exhaustion due to over exertion, being overdressed or dehydrated.
 - Ensure students change socks and wet clothing when needed.
 - Maintain contact with TOC for weather updates.
 - No "wet crossings" conducted below 50 degrees (F).
 - Pair students in buddy teams and have them monitor each other for cold weather injuries.
 - Conduct cold weather injury prevention when the temperature is below 32 degrees (F) (i.e. warming tents, mandatory clothing changes etc.)

- Summer:
 - Identify students with previous heat injuries, and during field training mark the students with red tape around the left and right side of the helmet camouflage band.
 - Monitor students for heat injuries/symptoms, due to over exertion or dehydration.
 - Ensure students drink adequate amounts of water to prevent dehydration/heat injuries.
 - Pair students in buddy teams and have them monitor each other for heat related injuries or symptoms.
 - Monitor heat categories and adjust training and uniform as appropriate.

Annex A: History of the NCO Creed

In 1973, the Army (and the Noncommissioned officer corps) was in turmoil. Of the post-Vietnam developments in American military policy, the most influential in shaping the Army was the advent of the Modern Volunteer Army. With the inception of the Noncommissioned Officer Candidate Course, many young sergeants were not the skilled trainers of the past and were only trained to perform a specific job; squad leaders in Vietnam. The Noncommissioned officer system was under development and the army was rewriting its Field Manual 22-100, Leadership, to set a road map for leaders to follow.

Of those working on the challenges at hand, one of the only NCO-pure instructional departments at the U.S Army Infantry School (USAIS) at Fort Benning, Georgia, GA was the NCO Subcommittee of the Command and Leadership Committee in the Leadership Department. Besides training soldiers at the Noncommissioned Officers Academy, these NCOs also developed instructional material and worked as part of the team developing model leadership programs of instruction.

During one brainstorming session, SFC Earle Brigham recalls writing three letters on a plain white sheet of paper... N-C-O. From those three letters they began to build the NCO Creed. The idea behind developing a creed was to give Noncommissioned officers a "yardstick by which to measure themselves."

When it was ultimately approved, the NCO Creed was printed on the inside cover of the special texts issued to students attending the NCO courses at Fort Benning, beginning in 1974. Though the NCO Creed was submitted higher for approval and distribution Army-wide, it was not formalized by an official army publication until 11 years later.

Though it has been rewritten in different ways, the NCO Creed still begins its paragraphs with those three letters: N-C-O. It continues to guide and reinforce the values of each new generation of Noncommissioned officers.



Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer

No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of soldiers. As a Noncommissioned Officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army." I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the Military Service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watch-word. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind--accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned Officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, Noncommissioned Officers, leaders!



Annex B: History of the Soldier's Creed

The current version of the Soldier's Creed is a product of the Warrior Ethos program authorized by the then Army Chief of Staff Eric K. Shinseki in May 2003. It was written in part by Matt Larsen, who also founded the Army's hand-to-hand combat program and was first presented to senior Army leaders on June 7, 2003.

The Soldier's Creed was approved in its current format by the next Army Chief of Staff Peter Schoomaker on the 24th of November 2003. The introduction of the Soldier's Creed kicked off a campaign known as Task Force Soldier. This is a leadership commitment to soldiers ensuring that they are prepared for combat and embody the Warrior Ethos that is contained in the Soldier's Creed. It seems to have been discussed in Congress in a Hearing on Army Issues held by Senator John W. Warner on or about November 19, 2003. It was first published in the magazine Infantry on December 22, 2003.



SOLDIER'S CREED

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.



Annex C: History of the Army Song

It [The Army Song] got its beginnings during a difficult march across the Zambales Mountains in the Philippines. As a lieutenant leading a small detachment to select a route, Brig. Gen. Edmund L. "Snitz" Gruber overheard a section chief call to his drivers, "Come on! Keep them rolling!"

Gruber, an artillery officer whose relative, Franz, composed "Silent Night," was stationed with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, in the Philippines. In March 1908, about a year after Gruber overheard that section chief in the mountains, six young lieutenants - including William Bryden and Robert Danford - gathered in his thatch hut and decided they needed a song for the field artillery.

"A guitar was produced and tuned and - in what seemed to us a few moments - as if suddenly inspired, Snitz fingered the melody of the now-famous song," recalled Danford, who retired as a major general. Danford and Bryden helped complete the lyrics.

Gruber taught the song to officers of the 1st Battalion as they arrived at Fort Stotsenburg. Wrote Danford: "A few evenings later at the post reception for the new unit and adieu to the old, 'The Caisson Song' was given its first public rendition. Its popularity was instantaneous, and almost in no time all six of the regiments then composing the U.S. Field Artillery adopted it."

During the last days of World War I, senior artillery leaders wanted an official marching song. An artillery officer who did not know Gruber and thought "The Caisson Song" dated back to the Civil War, gave the piece to noted composer and bandmaster John Philip Sousa and asked him to fix it up.

Sousa incorporated Gruber's piece into his composition, which he titled, "The U.S. Field Artillery March" - a few beginning measures being his own and the balance from Gruber.

The resulting song became a blockbuster record during World War I, selling about 750,000 copies. Gruber heard of it and asked Sousa, "How about some money, since I wrote the song?" Embarrassed, the innocent Sousa made certain Gruber got his royalties.

In 1948, the Army conducted a nationwide contest to come up with its own official song. None of the five winners achieved any notable popularity. In 1952, the secretary of the Army appealed to the music industry for a composition. Composers submitted an avalanche of more than 800 songs.

But no submission sparkled enough to be accepted. So a soldier music adviser in the Adjutant General's office was asked to try his hand at it. As a result, H.W. Arberg adapted "The Caisson Song" to become the official U.S. Army song, "The Army Goes Rolling Along."



THE ARMY SONG

(Sung to the tune of the original Field Artillery Song)

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'er we go,
You will always know
That the Army goes rolling along.



Annex D: History of the Arctic Warrior March

Upon deactivation of the 6th ID(L) in 1994, the newly formed command, US Army Command Alaska (USARAK), needed distinct musical representation for official ceremonies and functions. Since the Institute of Heraldry had no Alaska-specific command music on file, CW2 Aaron Graff composed "Keepers of the Northern Watch." MG Thomas H. Needham approved Keepers of the Northern Watch as the USARAK March.

Chief Graff incorporated historical elements of Alaska into the construction of the march. The break strain has a definitive Russian flavor. The Alaska State Song provides the counter melody. The Institute of Heraldry has placed Keepers of the Northern Watch on file as the official song for US Army, Alaska (USARAK).



Keepers of the Northern Watch

(The Arctic Warrior March)

The Official song of the United States Army, Alaska

We conquer the mountains and the valleys!

We train in the winter's bitter cold!

Alaska Soldiers!

Arctic Warriors!

Sentries of the North!

So pick up your weapons and your snowshoes!

We're ready to fight and to defend!

The finest Soldiers!

Arctic Warriors!

From the last Frontier!



Annex E: BLC Packing List

UNITED STATES ARMY ALASKA NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY BLC SUMMER PACKING LIST Last updated 20 Oct 15 May thru September					
RANK, LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MI					Unit
S- Student initials			1SG- First Sergeant's initials		
ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QTY REQ	S	1SG	REMARKS
1	Meal Card	1 ea			
2	Blouse, ACU or OCP * See note on bottom	4 ea			
3	Trouser, ACU or OCP * See note on bottom	4 ea			
4	Cap, Patrol ACU or OCP * See note on bottom	1 ea			
5	Undershirt, Tan (ACU), Coyote (OCP) * See note on bottom	7 ea			
6	Socks, Army Issued (Green or Black)	7 pr			
7	ID tags with long and short chain	1 set			
8	Boots, Tan (ACU) or Coyote (OCP) Hot Weather * See note on bottom	2 pr			
9	Belt, Riggers (Tan) ACU, Coyote (OCP) * See note on bottom	1 ea			
10	Towel, Bath, Brown	2 ea			
11	Inserts, Gloves	2 pr			
12	Drawers, Cotton Brown or white (Male)	7 pr			
13	Brassiere, White or neutral (Female)	3 ea			
14	Panties, White or neutral (Female)	7 pr			
15	Plugs, Ear with Case	1 pr			
16	Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) Complete	1 ea			
17	Mat, Sleeping	1 ea			
18	Bag, Clothing Waterproof	2 ea			
19	Bag, Duffle	1 ea			
20	Bag, Barracks	1 ea			
21	Rucksack, Large Field	1 ea			
22	Canteen 1qt w/cover and serviceable NBC cap	2 ea			
23	2 qt Canteen w/cover and strap	1 ea			
24	Improved First Aid Kit (IFAK) with content	1 ea			
25	Poncho, Wet Weather	1 ea			
26	Liner, Wet Weather Poncho	1 ea			
27	Pad, Knee	1 pr			
28	Elbow, Pad	1 pr			
29	Vest, Individual Tactical Load Bearing	1 ea			
30	Small Arm Cases (For 7 magazines)	3 ea			
31	Sleep System, Complete to include: Foliage Patrol Bag, Urban Intermediate Bag, Waterproof Bivy Cover, Foliage - Small Stuff Sack, Foliage Large Stuff Sack	1 set			
32	Assault Pack	1 ea			
33	Issued Eye Protection (Clear and Dark lenses)	1 set			

BLC SUMMER PACKING LIST					
Last updated 20 Oct 15 (continued)					
34	Jacket, IPFU/APFU	1 ea			
35	Pants, IPFU/APFU	1 ea			
36	T-shirt SS, IPFU/APFU	2 ea			
37	T-shirt LS, IPFU/APFU	1 ea			
38	Trunks, IPFU/APFU	2 ea			
39	Socks, White (Over the ankle and no logo)	5 pr			
40	Shoes, Running	1 pr			
41	Belt, Reflective (Gold NCO)	1 ea			
42	Cap, Synthetic Microfiber (PT Cap)	1 ea			
43	Jacket, ASU/Class A	1 ea			
44	Trousers, ASU/Class A	1 ea			
45	Socks, Nylon	2 pr			
46	Undershirt, White	2 ea			
47	Tie, Black	1 ea			
48	Shirt, White LS (ASU/Class A)	1 ea			
49	Beret	1 ea			
50	Jump boots (ABN)	1 pr			
51	Shoes, Dress (Non ABN)	1 pr			
52	Compass, Lensatic (NSN: 6605-01-196-6971)	2 ea			
53	Fine tip Map Markers, Permanent with eraser marker (minimum 4 colors and eraser)	1 set			
54	Magazines (M16/M4)	7 ea			
55	M16/M4 Blank Firing Adapter	1 ea			
56	Cleaning Kit, M16/M4 complete	1 ea			
57	GTA 05-02-012, Grid Coordinate Scale (Square Protractor)	2 ea			
58	Ruler, nonmetallic	1 ea			
59	Personal Hygiene Items (for 30 days)	1 set			
60	Shoe, Shower	1 pr			
61	Pen, Ink	2 ea			
62	Pencil, Mechanical	2 ea			
63	Note Book	1 ea			
64	Whistle, Ball	1 ea			
65	Head Lamp red lens capable with batteries	1 ea			
66	550 Cord	100 ft			
67	Cleaning Kit, Desert Boot	1 ea			
68	Glasses, Prescription Clear (If required)	2 pr			
69	Shirt, mid weight cold weather	2 ea			
70	Lock to secure personal items	1 ea			
71	Watch (non-GPS)	1 ea			
72	GEN III Wet Weather Top	1 ea			
73	GEN III Wet Weather Bottoms	1 ea			

<p>BLC SUMMER PACKING LIST Last updated 20 Oct 15 (continued)</p>					
<p>RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR FWA STUDENTS</p>					
	Personal Laptop	1 ea			
	Additional Civilian Attire	7 ea			
	Cap, Patrol (2 nd)	1 ea			
	Chain of Command/Emergency Contact Information	1 ea			
	Kit, Sewing	1 ea			
	Laundry Detergent	1 box			
	Hangers	10 ea			
	Civilian Clothes	2 pr			
	Baby wipes	1 pack			
	Spandex Shorts (black or grey) optional	2 pr			
	Carrier, Hydration with bladder (Camelback)	1 ea			

Students Name:

Signature

First Sergeant Name:

Signature

*Must have 4 complete uniforms. Soldiers can bring both sets, e.g., 2 complete ACUs and 2 complete OCPs..

**ALL ITEMS ON THIS PACKING LIST MUST BE CLEAN,
 SERVICEABLE AND IN WORKING ORDER IAW TM 10-8400-
 201-23&P (CH 2) DATE 1 OCT 2014.
 IF ONE ITEM IS FOUND MISSING OR UNSERVICEABLE THE SOLDIER WILL BE
 RELEASED FROM THE COURSE.**

Inspector (SGL)

Name: _____ Signature _____

1. The listed items of clothing/equipment are the MINIMUM required while attending the NCO Academy. Students missing items or in possession of unserviceable items will be denied enrollment.
2. The IPFU/APFU is required to have the NSN label. Commercially designed items are not to be a substitute.

SFC CHRISTOPHER R. BREVARD NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY BLC WINTER PACKING LIST Last updated 20 October 2015 Only from Oct to April					
RANK, LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MI					Unit
S- Student initials			1SG- First Sergeant's initials		
ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QTY REQ	S	1SG	REMARKS
0	Meal Card	1 ea			
1	Blouse, ACU/OCP * See note on bottom	4 ea			
2	Trouser, ACU/OCP * See note on bottom	4 ea			
3	Undershirt, Tan/coyote (OCP) * See note on bottom	7 ea			
4	Socks, Issued Army (Green or Black)	7 pr			
5	ID w/long and short chain	1 set			
6	Boots, Tan (Cold Weather)	2 pr			
7	Belt, Riggers (Tan) or OCP (Coyote) * See note on bottom	1 ea			
8	Gloves, Convoy Brown OR	1 set			
9	Towel, Bath, Brown	2 ea			
10	Winter Issued Wool Socks	4 pr			
11	Drawers, Cotton Brown or white (Male)	7 pr			
12	Brassiere, White or neutral (Female)	3 ea			
13	Panties, White or neutral (Female)	7 pr			
14	Plugs, Ear with Case	1 ea			
15	Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) Complete	1 ea			
16	Mat, Sleeping	1 ea			
17	Bag, Clothing Waterproof	2 ea			
18	Bag, Duffle	1 ea			
19	Bag, Barracks	1 ea			
20	Rucksack, Large Field	1 ea			
21	Canteen 1qt w/ cap and cover	2 ea			
22	2 qt Canteen w/cap, cover and strap	1 ea			
23	Improved First Aid Kit (IFAK) with content	1 ea			
24	Poncho, Wet Weather	1 ea			
25	Liner, Wet Weather Poncho	1 ea			
26	Pad, Knee	1 set			
27	Elbow, Pad	1 set			
28	Vest, Individual Tactical Load Bearing	1 ea			
29	Small Arms Case (ability to hold 6 magazines)				
30	Sleep System, Complete to include: Foliage Patrol Bag, Urban Intermediate Bag, Waterproof Bivy Cover, Foliage - Small Stuff Sack, Foliage Large Stuff Sack	1 set			
31	Assault Pack	1 ea			
32	Issued Eye Protection (APEL List)	1 set			
33	Canteen, Arctic with cover/OR Nalgene bottle w/cover	1 ea			

BLC WINTER PACKING LIST					
Last updated 20 October 2015 (continued)					
34	Jacket, IPFU/APFU	1 ea			
35	Pants, IPFU/APFU	1 ea			
36	T-shirt SS, IPFU/APFU	2 ea			
37	T-shirt LS, IPFU/APFU	1 ea			
38	Trunks, IPFU/APFU	2 ea			
39	Socks, White (Over the ankle and no logos)	5 pr			
40	Shoes, Running	1 pr			
41	Belt, Reflective (Gold NCO)	1 ea			
42	Cap, Synthetic Microfiber (PT Cap) Foliage or Black	1 ea			
43	Jacket, ASU/Class A	1 ea			
44	Trouser or Skirt, ASU/Class A	1 ea			
45	Socks, Nylon	2 pr			
46	Undershirt, White	2 ea			
47	Tie, Black	1 ea			
48	Shirt, White LS (ASU/Class A)	1 ea			
49	Beret	1 ea			
50	Jump boots (assigned ABN unit)	1 pr			
51	Shoes, Dress (assigned Non ABN unit)	1 pr			
52	Compass, Lensatic	2 ea			
53	Fine tip Map Markers, Permanent with eraser marker	1 set			
54	Magazines (M16/M4)	7 ea			
55	M16/M4 Blank Firing Adapter	1 ea			
56	Cleaning Kit, M16/M4 complete	1 ea			
57	GTA 05-02-012, Grid Coordinate Scale (Square Protractor)	2 ea			
58	Ruler, nonmetallic	1 ea			
59	Personal Hygiene Items (for 30 days)	1 kit			
60	Shoe, Shower	1 pr			
61	Pen, Ink	2 ea			
62	Pencil, Mechanical	2 ea			
63	Note Book	1 ea			
64	Whistle, Ball	1 ea			
65	Kit, Sewing	1 ea			
66	Head Lamp red lens capable	1 ea			
67	550 Cord	100 ft			
68	Cleaning Kit, Desert Boot	1 ea			
69	Glasses, Prescription Clear (If required)	2 pr			

BLC WINTER PACKING LIST					
Last updated 20 October 2015 (continued)					
70	Under shirt, Light weight cold weather GEN 3 ECWCS Level 1	2 ea			
71	Drawers, Light weight cold weather GEN 3 ECWCS Level 1	2 ea			
72	Shirt, Mid weight cold weather GEN 3 ECWCS Level 2	2 ea			
73	Trousers, Mid weight cold weather GEN 3 ECWCS Level 2	2 ea			
74	ECWCS GEN 3 Level 3-7 Complete	1 ea			
75	Boots, Vapor Barrier	1 pr			
76	Gloves, Cold Weather Black or Brown (issued OR)	1pr			
77	Mittens, Set Extreme Cold Weather	1 pr			
78	Balaclava	1 ea			
79	Snowshoe with bindings preferably MSR (no poles)	1 set			
80	Spikes (MUST BE BLACK AND FIT OVER COLD WEATHER BOOTS)	1 pr			
81	Lock	1 ea			
82	Watch with no GPS	1 ea			
83	Chap stick	1 ea			
84	Patrol Cap (OCP and/or ACU)	1ea			
RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR FWA STUDENTS					
	Personal Laptop	1 ea			
	Additional Civilian Attire	7 ea			
	Chain of Command/Emergency Contact Information	1 ea			
	Laundry Detergent	1 box			
	Hangers	10 ea			
	Civilian Clothes	2 pr			
	Baby wipes	1 pack			
	Spandex Shorts (black or grey) optional	2 pr			

Students Name: _____ Signature _____

First Sergeant Name: _____ Signature _____

*Must have 4 complete uniforms. Soldiers can bring both sets, e.g., 2 complete ACUs and 2 complete OCPs..

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Inspector (SGL)

Name: _____ Signature _____

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