



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2nd ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION
BLDG 7626 NORMANDY DRIVE
FORT RILEY, KS 66442



AFZN-BB

8 November 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR NEWCOMER, 2nd ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SUBJECT: Commander's Welcome Letter

1. Congratulations and welcome to the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, **Big Red One**, Fort Riley, KS. I know that you have many questions about your new duties, interesting opportunities, and the surrounding community; we will do our best to provide answers to all of your questions. I look forward to your arrival and wish you safe travels.
2. Among the Army's most historic units, the 2nd ABCT "Dagger Brigade" was constituted on 24 May 1917, and fought with the **Big Red One** during WWI & WWII as well as campaigns in the Republic of Vietnam. The 2nd ABCT, 1st ID continued through military modernization during the Bosnia-Herzegovina's Operation Joint Endeavor, the Kosovo Campaign, Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Liberation of Kuwait, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn. Upon return from Germany in 2006, the 2nd ABCT activated at Fort Riley, Kansas along with the U.S. Army's new modular structure that became the Army's first Brigade to regionally align with U.S. Army Africa (USARAF).
3. You are now a **Big Red One Soldier** and will be **Brave, Responsible, and On-point** at all times. The "Dagger Brigade" consists of the 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1855; 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 1861; 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 1916; 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment, 1940; 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 1942; 82nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 1942; and the 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 1966. We look to you to carry on the professional legacy of the great generation of the **Big Red One** Soldiers who went before you. It is now up to you to live up to this legacy of honor and sacrifice.
4. In preparation for your arrival in the "Dagger Brigade," we encourage you to seek out opportunities to expand your knowledge by attending schools that will add further value to this great organization. Schools like Ranger School, Master Gunner School, Infantry Mortar Leaders Course, Bradley Leaders Course, and Master Resiliency Trainer are excellent training opportunities that serve to provide you with additional knowledge to better the "Dagger Brigade." If there is any doubt about the timing of a school, please contact your sponsor with any questions.
5. If not already initiated, the DA Form 5434 Sponsorship Program Counseling and Information Sheet can be emailed to usarmy.riley.1-id.mbx.total-army-sponsorship-program@mail.mil; if unable to email and/or have any questions, the primary point of contact for sponsorship will be the TASP coordinator at 785-239-9376; the alternate will be the BDE S1 OIC at 785-239-9678 or BDE S1 NCOIC at 785-240-2301.

DUTY FIRST!

EDMOND M. BROWN
COL, FA
Commanding