The following document was collected and digitized by the Command History Office of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center with the assistance of community service learning students enrolled at California State University Monterey Bay.

The mission of the Command History Office is to document, record, and tell the story of the Institute and the United States Army on the Central Coast of California. More information about this mission, the historical resources we curate, and services offered to the public (subject to resource limitations) can be found at www.dliflc.edu.
FORT ORD
CALIFORNIA

U.S. ARMY
TRAINING CENTER
INFANTRY

COMPANY D
4th BATTALION 1st BRIGADE
Fort Ord was named after Major General Edward Cresap Ord, who served with Fremont’s Army in the early California days as a lieutenant. Fort Ord covers more than 28,500 acres of rolling plains and rugged hills which make it ideal for its Infantry Training Center and Combat Support training missions. Located on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula, Fort Ord is 115 miles south of San Francisco and 340 miles north of Los Angeles.

Thousands of recruits, draftees, and reservists are trained in Fort Ord’s four training brigades each year. The 1st and 3d Brigades conduct Basic Combat Training; the 2d Brigade provides Advanced Individual Training (Infantry); and the 4th Brigade conducts the following Combat Support Training courses: Basic Army Administration, Food Service, Basic Unit Supply, Automotive Mechanic’s Helper, Field Communications, Light Wheel Vehicle Driver, and Radio Operator.

Even before the recruit enters formal basic combat training, he begins to get the “feel” of becoming a soldier at his first stop — the Reception Station at Fort Ord. This is where the new recruit is assigned as a member of a platoon of 48 men, under the command of a Drill Sergeant, an experienced non-commissioned officer who will lead, train, and guide this platoon for the entire eight weeks of Basic Combat Training.

No one mistakes the identity of a drill sergeant because he is distinguished by his erect military bearing, his olive drab campaign hat, and his immaculate uniform which bears the crest and motto of Army Training Centers: “This We'll Defend.” This motto, which is also inscribed on the Army Flag, depicts the determination, devotion and constant readiness of the American soldier.

During his time at the Reception Station, such terms as “Aptitude Test,” “Classification Interview,” “Language Qualification Test,” “Clothing Issue,” and “Preventive Medicine Orientations,” become familiar words to the new soldier. Upon completion of this initial processing, he is assigned to a training company for eight weeks of Basic Combat Training.

There are five general categories of subjects presented during basic training. They are Administration, Command Information, General Military Subjects, Tactical Training, and Weapons Instruction.

In the first week the trainee finds that physical conditioning is one of the activities most stressed in basic training. Immediately he begins a series of (Continued inside back endsheet)
reception center and first meal
clothing issue
dental check

testing
mess hall

service club

dayroom

library
marches and inspections
first aid
physical training
sighting-in

trainfire
individual tactical training
106 recoilless rifle

c. b. r.
grenades

close combat course
food service school

long, proud history
inspections
shots
mess
marches
first aid

field mess
basic rifle marksmanship
basic rifle marksmanship
bayonet
chemical, biological, radiological warfare
close combat course
individual tactical training
hand to hand combat
rocket launcher
automatic rifle
hand grenades
mortars
recoilless rifle
pistol classroom - pistol
radio operators course

communications course
information
office
radio section

chapel
light vehicle
drivers course
drill sergeants creed

I AM A DRILL SERGEANT DEDICATED TO TRAINING NEW SOLDIERS AND INFLUENCING THE OLD. I AM FOREVER CONSCIOUS OF EACH SOLDIER UNDER MY CHARGE, AND BY EXAMPLE WILL INSPIRE HIM TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS POSSIBLE.

I WILL STRIVE TO BE PATIENT, UNDERSTANDING, JUST AND FIRM. I WILL COMMEND THE DESERVING AND ENCOURAGE THE WAYWARD.

I WILL NEVER FORGET THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE TO MY COMMANDER FOR THE MORALE, DISCIPLINE AND EFFICIENCY OF MY MEN AND THEIR PERFORMANCE WILL REFLECT AN IMAGE OF ME.
I AM THE INFANTRY

I am the Infantry—Queen of Battle! I meet the enemy face to face ... will to will. For two centuries, I have been the bulwark of our Nation’s defense ... I am the Infantry! Follow me!

Both hardship ... and glory, I have known. My bleeding feet stained the snow at Valley Forge. I pulled an oar to cross the icy Delaware ... tasted victory at Yorktown ... and saw our Nation born.

At New Orleans, I fought beyond the hostile hour ... discovered the fury of my long rifle ... and came of age. I am the Infantry!

I pushed westward with the Conestoga ... and marched with the pioneer across the plains ... to build outposts for freedom on the wild frontier. Follow me!

With Scott I went to Vera Cruz ... battled Santa Anna in the mountain passes ... and climbed the high plateau. I planted our flag in the Plaza of Mexico City.

From Bull Run to Appomattox my blood ran red. I fought for both the Blue and the Grey ... divided in conflict, I united in peace ...

I am the Infantry.

I left these shores with the sinking of the Maine ... led the charge up San Juan Hill ... and fought the Moro—and disease—in the Philippines. Across the Rio Grande, I chased the bandit, Villa. Follow me!

At Chateau-Thierry, I went over the top. I stood like a rock on the Marne ... cracked the Hindenburg Line ... and broke the back of the Hun in the Argonne. I didn’t come back until it was “over, over there.”

At Bataan and Corregidor, I bowed briefly, licked my wounds and vowed to return. I invaded Tunisia on the African shore ... dug my nails into the sand at Anzio ... and bounced into Rome with a flower in my helmet.

The Channel and the hedgerow could not hold me. I pushed back the “Bulge” ... vaulted the Rhine ... and seized the Heartland. The “Thousand-Year” Reich was dead.

From island to island, I hopped the Pacific ... hit the beaches ... and chopped my way through swamp and jungle. I kept my vow ... I did return ... I set the Rising Sun.

In Pusan perimeter I gathered my strength ... crossed the frozen Han ... marched to the Yalu. Along the 38th parallel ... and around the world, I made my stand.

Wherever brave men fight ... and die, for freedom, you will find me. I am the bulwark of our Nation’s defense. I am always ready ... now, and forever. I am the Infantry—Queen of Battle! Follow Me!

(Reprinted through courtesy of Infantry Magazine)
MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT GEORGE FERGUSSON
Commanding General

General Fergusson was born in Chicago, Ill., on 20 May 1911. He attended Beloit College in Wisconsin and in 1932 entered the United States Military Academy from where he was graduated in 1936, being commissioned in the Cavalry.

His first assignment was as a troop officer in the 11th U.S. Cavalry, Monterey, California. He served with the Pacific Coastal Frontier, San Francisco, and later in Hawaii with the Artillery Command.

A few months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, he returned to the Mainland and was Commander, 7th Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), 7th Motorized Division at San Luis Obispo, California.

Shortly after the redesignation of the 7th as the 7th Infantry Division, General Fergusson—then a Lieutenant Colonel—was assigned to the Division's General Staff. He transferred his commission from Cavalry to the Infantry and accompanied the Division to Fort Ord for later employment in the Aleutian Islands.

General Fergusson participated in the Aleutian Islands (Attu), Central Pacific (Kwajalein), and Philippine (Leyte) campaigns.

Subsequent assignments included G-2 of the Central Army Pacific Area Command in Hawaii, and later, as Deputy G-2, Headquarters, United States Army Pacific. After attending the Strategic Intelligence School he became an instructor at the Command and General Staff College where he served until January 1948 when he attended the Armed Forces Staff College. From July 1948 to July 1949 he was Chief, Dissemination Branch, Intelligence Division, Department of the Army.

Other tours included Army Representative on the Staff, First Task Fleet, United States Navy, Coronado, Calif.; Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, Fort Ord, Korea where he served as Deputy G-2 in charge of Combat Intelligence, Headquarters, Eighth Army, from July 1950 to July 1951; student Army War College, Carlisle, Pa., and graduated in June 1952; Chief, Southeast Asia Branch, Foreign Military Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Deputy Chief of Staff, Headquarters, United States Army, Pacific; Hawaii; Commanding Officer, 14th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Following the Army's adoption of the Pentomic Division Concept, he was named Commanding Officer, 1st Battle Group, 14th Infantry.

In August 1957 he was assigned to the Naval War College as Chief of the Army Advisory Group. On July 12th, 1961 he was assigned as Assistant Division Commander, 24th Infantry Division in Augsburg, Germany. On November 1, 1962 he was promoted to the grade of Major General as Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Central Army Group (NATO), Seckenheim, Germany. He assumed Command at Fort Ord on July 1, 1965.

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM E. SHERIDAN, III
Deputy Commanding General

Brigadier General William E. Sheridan was born in Washington, D. C., on 20 January 1920.

He was graduated from the Fishburne Military School at Waynesboro, Va., in 1937 and commissioned a 2d Lieutenant in 1942 upon completion of the U. S. Military Academy.

Brig. Gen. Sheridan joined the 14th Armored Division when it was activated in 1942. He served as a tank company and headquarters company commander during the division's training period prior to entering combat in Europe in World War II, where he was in three major campaigns.

After the war he remained in Europe on the staff of the 3d U. S. Army and U. S. Forces Austria, returning to the U. S. in July 1946, being assigned to Fort Knox with the 3d Armored Division. He also attended the Advanced Armored Course there.

Other assignments include a tactical officer at West Point; the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; U. S. Military Assistance Group, Republic of Philippines; commander, 44th Tank Battalion, 82d Airborne Division. During this tour he became a qualified paratrooper.

After serving three years (1956-59) on the faculty of the Command and General Staff College, he attended the Army War College and from there became G3 Plans Officer with Headquarters, U. S. Army Pacific and Hawaii. He next served first as aide and later executive officer to the Commander in Chief, USARPAC.

In 1964 he was Brigade Commander and later Chief of Staff of the 2d Armored Division, a position he held until June 1965 when he became Senior Advisor to the Capital Military Region, Viet Nam.

He reported to the U. S. Army Training Center, Infantry, on 15 May 1966, as a Colonel. He was promoted to brigadier general on 1 September 1966.
COMPANY D

COL Frank E. Burgher
Brigade Commander

LTC William N. Bringham
Battalion Commander

FOURTH BATTALION
FIRST BRIGADE

Started Basic Training: 19 September 1966

Graduated: 12 November 1966

CPT William A. Byrd
Company Commander

1LT Donald L. Estes
Former Company Commander
SSG Bobby Robinson
Supply Sergeant

SSG Ernest L. Vert
Mess Steward

PFC Brandon
Armorer

PFC Thomas
Company Clerk

SP5 Ligon
First Cook

PFC McClendon
Cook

PFC Muskovin
Cook

PFC Sanders
Cook

E-2 Silva
Cook

Christopher Allebe
Thomas Bacon
Joe Bailey
Dennis Baldwin
Richard Barnes

Thomas Barnett
Dewitt Barton, Jr.
Paul Battaglia
Bobby Battle
Norman Berens
Vincent Blanks
Stanley Bly
Bernam Bowie
Willie Bradford
John Brock

Robert Brown, Jr.
Sherrell Brown
Richard Buchanan
Keith Burdick
Fernando Calderon

Ronald Calvillo
Rodney Campbell
Ronald Carman
Brian Carter
Jim Casper

Daniel Casto
Arthur Chapman
Paul Chase
Arthur Chavez
Eddie Chervony

Marvin Clark
Paul Claytor
James Colbert
Frenchie Collier, Jr.
Johnny Collier
Christopher Floyd
Stanley Foat
John Folk
Luther Foster, III
Ira Flushman

William Fox
Lloyd Frank
Lawrence Fuzeé
George Garcia
Larry Garcia

Ronald Gisman
Anthony Goffredo
Ronald Gruber
Mack Gregory
Thomas Grier

Glenn Grofe
Michael Grua
Terry Gustatis
Alan Hale
Ethello Hall

Larry Hall
George Hamada
Michael Hardwick
Takaoki Hashimoto
Robert Hays, Jr.
Dennis Sapp
Jay Schlessinger
Robert Schorsch
Mark Schuster
Thomas Schwass

Joseph Scranton
James Shay
Charles Short
Darrell Shultz
Carl Simpson

Ronald Smith
Larry Sobelman
Darrell Speights
Joseph Stewart
Jack Swift

Thomas Sykes, Jr.
Bruce Tager
John Tate
Calvin Taylor
James Tietz

Coy Tinney
Richard Tirre
William Trepes
Robert Trainor
Alan Tucker
Gabriel Urrutia
James Unno
James Van Hill
Theodore Van Klaveren
Michael Velazquez

Phillip Velderrain
Gregory Vital
Frank Ward
Michael Ward
Ronnie Washington

William Weatherford
Nick Welling
William White
Vern Wiemer
James Wilkerson

Gary Wilkins
Joseph Williams
Kenneth Williams
Steven Winans
Richard Wogoman

Michael Yamamoto
Alan Zednik
David Zesiger
David Zuercher
David Humberson
outstanding trainees

graduation
body-building exercises designed to develop strength, endurance, agility, and coordination. These conditioning exercises are gradually intensified as he becomes adapted to his new environment.

During this initial phase, the trainee's time is also devoted to drills and ceremonies, lessons in first aid, map reading and military justice. Character guidance classes, administered by Army chaplains, explain the interrelation of spiritual and patriotic values.

Hand-to-hand combat is introduced to teach the fundamentals of unarmed combat and to instill in each trainee confidence in his ability to protect himself from an armed or unarmed enemy without the use of weapons. Also taught are the basic skills of bayonet fighting. Intensive training is given in basic rifle marksmanship, and during the training period the recruit virtually lives with his rifle. At the end of this phase of his training he fires his weapon for qualification.

During the latter part of his training he goes into the field for bivouac where he receives tactical training, familiarization with hand grenades, and participates in live firing training exercises under simulated combat conditions.

Finally the trainee must take a graded test on all aspects of Basic Combat Training. When he passes this exacting test, his period of basic training is over. On the last day the new soldier parades for his graduation ceremony knowing he has mastered the fundamentals of soldiering.

But Basic Combat Training is not the end of the learning process. Next comes Advanced Training.

Depending upon the type of training they have chosen, or have been assigned to, most trainees will receive two weeks of leave between the basic and advanced cycles. Some men will return to Fort Ord. Others will be sent to posts throughout the country that specialize in subjects such as Infantry, Armor and Artillery. Some will become skilled in one of the Combat Support fields, such as mechanics, cooking, administration, and communications. Altogether the Army provides courses in some 625 subjects.

After Advanced Training, he is ready to take his place alongside his fellow soldiers in a unit, confident and fit to shoulder his share of responsibility as a soldier.