



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 171ST INFANTRY BRIGADE (BLACKHAWKS)
4310 MAGRUDER AVENUE
FORT JACKSON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29207



Families of the Blackhawk Brigade

Welcome to one of the finest brigades in the United States Army! You are an important part of a unique and exceptional Training Brigade here at Fort Jackson. The Blackhawks are an organization of over 750 Soldiers and Civilians that are extremely professional, incredibly effective and fully committed to our mission and our people.

The mission of this brigade is very simple – we train and we support the training of our Army's newest Soldiers. Everything we do, in some way, should be related to that mission. All of the hours, hard work and effort can be captured in the eyes, confidence and strength of our young Soldiers, as they leave our brigade for life in the Army.

The history of the 171st Infantry Brigade is remarkable and distinguished one, beginning at a small post in Illinois in 1914, continuing through three wars in Europe and Asia and culminating here in our training mission in Fort Jackson. The 171st has seen itself stationed in Camp Grant, Illinois, Fort Wainwright Alaska and now here in South Carolina. Throughout the years, Blackhawks have made an incredible contribution to our Nation's defense, on and off the battlefield. That tradition of service continues here today as thousands of Soldiers and Sailors train year round for their future responsibilities again, on and off the battlefield.

We want you to know that you, as Families of our brigade, are a vital and important part of the unit. Nothing we do here on a daily (and many times nightly) basis is possible without the support, care and work that you do for your Blackhawk – and your Family. We clearly understand that, having our own Families, and being a part of the larger Army Family for over 28 and 22 years respectively. We also want you to know that we want and need you to be a part of this journey here at Fort Jackson. Quite frankly, we can reach a certain level of success here at work and with our mission – but with our Families informed, empowered and involved, we can exceed any and all hopes and expectations. We can, together, make this brigade and our post a better place to live and serve. Honestly, together, we can make this the best place in the Army.

Fort Jackson and this area of South Carolina are a part of the country that is rich with natural beauty, polite and friendly people – and truly unlimited potential. The post is already the premier basic training center in the U.S. Army. We would like to help make it the premier place to serve and live.

We are privileged to lead this great brigade and look forward to serving with your Soldier. And we are fully committed to taking care of our Families. We have many great events, activities and opportunities in the months and years ahead. We hope that you will be a part of that effort, either actively or just sharing in the care of those friends and Families around you. It's good to be a Blackhawk!

"Train for Victory"

CHARLES S. COOK
CSM, U.S. Army
Command Sergeant Major



MARK D. BIEGER
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding