



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MATA, 316TH CAVALRY BRIGADE
6587 Luzon Street, BLDG 9186B
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905

ATZK-SBE-Z (612-201a-600A)

26 July 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Combat Advisor Training Course Welcome Letter

1. Congratulations on your selection to attend the Combat Advisor Training Course. The purpose of this memorandum is to officially welcome you to and inform you about the Combat Advisor Training Course (CATC) held by the Military Advisor Training Academy (MATA). This course is a prerequisite prior to deployment as an advisor in the Security Force Assistance Brigades (SFAB). As a combat advisor, you will execute strategic missions often in austere, isolated environments as part of a small team and the CATC is a pivotal step in preparing you for that mission.

2. You are a reserved Student for the Combat Advisor Training Course. Read this letter in its entirety, as it explains the information needed for your class. You must arrive with a copy of your orders, all amendments (DD form 1610), and all other applicable documents below. Please note this is a resident course based extended training hours, thus barracks and meals are provided as per the Fort Benning Travel Guidance. Commanders at all levels should ensure that Combat Advisor candidates are in top physical condition and meet all SFAB entrance requirements prior to attending CATC. Additional prerequisites are:

- a. Have a minimum Secret Security clearance. Additionally, sponsoring unit must submit a visit request in JPAS.
- b. Have a physical profile no greater than 111221.
- c. Bring the equipment outlined in the attached packing list (enclosure 1).
- d. Obtain a student CAC login for the Ft Benning NIPR network Instructions:

1) Click on the link or copy and paste it to your address bar:
https://portal.tradoc.army.mil/sites/tso/siteassets/onboard/obclass_v3.aspx

2) For the School drop-down menu, click on "171B Armor School - Fort Benning"

3) Click on "Confirm Class" for the Combat Advisor Training course you are attending.

3. Travel instructions:

a. All Students will live in the MATA barracks and all meals are provided. Ensure your DD Form 1610 includes the following statement all meals and lodging are provided at no cost to the Student." Transportation to the DFAC will be available by CATC Cadre, if needed.

b. All Students will arrive on the scheduled report date, to BLDG 9180 located on Kelley Hill. The physical address is 9180 East Ballard St. Ft. Benning, GA 31905 (see enclosure 2). Upon arrival, you will sign for linen and a barracks room from the MATA Duty NCO. Personnel must arrive NLT 1700 hrs. Students arriving outside normal reporting hours (0900-1700) need to contact the MATA Duty NCO at (706) 544-3221. All students will remain on the MATA installation for the duration of the course.

c. Please note you are responsible for transportation to the reporting location. Commercial taxis and/or shuttles are available to drive you from the Columbus or Atlanta Airports directly to Kelley Hill on Fort Benning. Students who travel via Commercial Air are highly encouraged to bring a complete set of APFU's in their carry-on in case the airline loses their luggage.

d. Soldiers in a TDY/Active Duty for Training (ADT) status may not report early to the training base. Training activities are not authorized to direct early arrival prior to class report date. Exceptions to this policy must be addressed to HQDA, G-3/5/7, institutional training division before execution of travel. Dependents/family members of TDY/ADT students are not authorized at the TDY site due to constrained accommodations/services.

e. For questions regarding TDY funding, please contact your SFAB Brigade Schools NCO or Operations SGM. All students should ensure that they have a completed and approved DD Form 1610 and an activated government travel card prior to travel.

f. Students traveling to the CATC on a TDY en-route status should work with their chain of command and local Central Issuing Facility to receive a Carry Forward Memorandum allowing them to bring all packing list items to the CATC.

g. Students traveling to the CATC on a TDY en-route status must ensure their DA Form 31 covers all days from the date that they sign out of their losing unit to the date they report to their gaining installation.

h. Students are only allowed to miss five cumulative hours of the course. Over five hours will result in a drop from the course. These five hours include in-processing on the morning of day one. Any student arriving to Ft Benning late due to missed or delayed flights will not be held to the five hour standard.

4. The CATC trains Combat Advisors to serve as members of the SFAB. Graduates from the course will have the requisite knowledge, skills and attributes to assess, advise, support, liaise, and enable Foreign Security Forces (FSF) at the tactical level. Students will learn the technical and tactical skills needed to function in combat by, with and through FSF as a member of an advisor team.

5. Training includes instruction on principles of Security Force Assistance (SFA), cross cultural communication, human behavior and building rapport, use of interpreter and engagement, influencing and negotiation. Tactical skills reinforced include advanced medical, communications, fire support, force protection measures, survival, and personnel recovery. Course facilitation includes classroom, practical exercises, and field environments. The MATA facilitates an online psychological evaluation and a face-to-face psychological consultation during the course. At the end of the course, you will receive a comprehensive counseling that covers all of the topics above and the results of your psychological and peer assessments.

6. Familiarize yourself with the requirements and course information prior to arrival to the MATA at Fort Benning. Our public website can provide you with further information at <http://www.benning.army.mil/Armor/316thCav/MATA/>. The time you spend at the CATC will be fast-paced and educational. I look forward to meeting you in the course!

7. It is highly recommended to bring your government laptop and mifi puck to assist in note taking during the course.

8. Point of Contact is the MATA Operation at usarmy.benning.tradoc.mbx.mata-operations@mail.mil or 706-626-6598.



TIMOTHY R. PALMER
LTC, IN
Director

4 Encls

1. CATC Packing list
2. CATC Recommended Reading

