DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, AIRBORNE & RANGER TRAINING BRIGADE
10850 SCHNEIDER ROAD, BLDG 5024
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-4166

ATSH-RB

07 July 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Command Sergeant Major Welcome Letter

1. Congratulations on your selection to attend the United States Army Ranger School. Ranger School is a demanding course that will improve your capabilities in stressful situations. By the nature of the course, you will emerge a more confident, tactically proficient Soldier with the ability to accomplish any mission assigned. This welcome letter should give you an idea of what to expect and some things that are expected of you when you arrive.

a. All Male Ranger students will have a Ranger haircut prior to arrival on Zero Day. A Ranger haircut is defined as: stubble-entire head shaved with hair clippers with no guard attached. There is no requirement to shave your head with a razor.

b. All Female Ranger Students will have a haircut IAW Female Short Length standards in AR 670-1 prior to arrival on Zero Day. AR 670-1 defines a Female Short Haircut as, "hair length that extends no more than 1 inch from the scalp (excluding bangs). Hair may be no shorter than 1/4 inch from the scalp (unless due to medical condition or injury), but may be evenly tapered to the scalp within 2 inches of the hair line edges."

c. Cellular phones **ARE NOT AUTHORIZED during the course**. Only students that are OCONUS or TDY en route to their next unit will be allowed to store a cell phone in their unauthorized baggage. If you are caught with a phone at any time during the course, it is an SOR offense and grounds for dismissal.

d. Unauthorized items, as defined in the Ranger packing list (see packing list), will not be stored by ARTB unless the student is TDY en route or OCONUS. Tobacco and caffeine products of any kind are forbidden and will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the Ranger Course.

e. Students should have all personal/financial issues in order prior to attending Ranger Training.

f. Students **must** be mentally and physically fit when reporting. The standards for Ranger School are well known and available on the website. You are expected to show up physically capable of achieving those standards. The three events that cause the most students to recycle or fail Ranger School are the Ranger Physical Assessment,

the land navigation test, and the foot march. You must train for the cumulative effects of RAP Week. Success in those events significantly increases your chance of graduating. Do not rely on adrenaline to overcome a shortcoming in your fitness level.

g. Students reporting for Ranger School will report **NO EARLIER THAN 1000** hours and **NO LATER THAN 1300** hours on Zero Day which is on the Sunday before the class start date. The uniform is Army Combat Uniform, Multicam Uniform Pattern, Operational Camouflage Uniform or your service equivalent. If you are flying into Columbus or Atlanta you must have a complete uniform, a seasonal Army Physical Fitness Uniform and all necessary paperwork in your carry-on bags in case your checked baggage doesn't make it. Make sure this is a small carry-on bag that will be placed in the bottom of your duffle bag while attending the course. This bag will not be stored in the unauthorized baggage area for anyone that is not OCONUS or TDY en route.

h. Finally, do not attend Ranger School on a timeline. Your attitude should be that I'm here until the mission is complete and the only mission is to earn the RANGER TAB. Ensure that all business is accomplished before attending so you can maintain focus.

2. The POC for this memorandum is the Brigade Senior TAC at (706) 544-7312/7310.

VICTOR A. BALLESTEROS
CSM, USA
Brigade Command Sergeant Major