



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
173D SPECIAL TROOPS BATTALION (AIRBORNE)
173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM
UNIT 31420
APO AE 09139

AESE-BG

06 August 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR Incoming Soldiers, 173 Special Troops Battalion

SUBJECT: Commander's Welcome

1. Welcome to the 173D Special Troops Battalion, part of the 173D Airborne Brigade Combat Team and congratulations on your assignment to the only rapid-reaction Airborne Force in United States Army Europe (USAREUR). This Brigade has a magnificent history of professional service, starting in Vietnam, continuing through its airborne assault and deployment to northern Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and most recently, deployment to eastern Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom (07-09), where the battalion served valiantly in accordance with its motto "Courage and Strength."
2. Throughout the process of moving to Germany you will receive assistance from a wide variety of sources. The first and foremost is your sponsor. Your sponsor was selected and trained to answer your questions and give you the insight you need to quickly and successfully integrate into your new home. Secondly, your chain of command and every support agency is aware of the difficulties of moving to Europe and is ready to assist you.
3. While assigned to the 173D Special Troops Battalion you will conduct extensive training at various locations across the European Command area of responsibility. Your time in the 173D Special Troops Battalion will also afford you numerous opportunities to experience and enjoy all that Europe has to offer. Your experience, training and other talents will make you an integral member of the combat capability of this Battalion. Your contribution to this proud team will enable the continued success of this unit and the U.S. Army.
4. If you have not been contacted by a sponsor please visit the USAREUR website at <https://www.sponsor.hqusareur.army.mil>. You can also contact the Battalion S1 to get more assignment information at DSN 469-8632 or 469-8356.

COURAGE & STRENGTH!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. I. Brown".

WILLIAM I. BROWN
LTC, MI
Commanding