



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM
UNIT 31401, BOX 88
APO AE 09630

AESE-B

30 June 2011

Welcome Letter for Soldiers and Family Members Arriving to the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team

1. Welcome to the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (ABCT), 'The Herd,' – known as America's first-response team in Europe. You are now an important part of the 'Sky Soldier Family' and we are glad to have you on the team. As a member of the 173rd you are the keepers of our traditions and standard bearer for our reputation as an elite, disciplined force of paratroopers.
2. You should be proud of the brigade's history of service and sacrifice. The brigade has more Medal of Honor recipients than any other Brigade in the US Army. The 173rd ABCT traces its combat lineage back to the 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment in World War II, where the unit had four combat jumps.
3. Sky Soldiers, we will make every effort to support your arrival. The successful reception of each Paratrooper and their family is paramount to us. The chain of command will use AKO email accounts in order to keep you and your family informed. We encourage you to visit the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team's website at <http://www.eur.army.mil/173abct/> where you will find helpful information about the leadership, installation(s) and community that awaits you. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/173rd.ABCT.Sky.Soldiers, where you can "like" us and stay up to date with what's new with the 173rd!
4. Ensure you arrive physically fit and ready for the rigors of an Airborne Infantry unit. We demonstrate resolve and commitment in our approach to Soldiering and answering America's call. We are confident you will find your assignment here to be both demanding and rewarding. Remember, it is your Brigade now. Make the most of your time here and find ways to improve upon the great work of those paratroopers who have come before us to make the 173rd the finest brigade in the U.S. Army.

Sky Soldiers!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Rohling".

ANDREW M. ROHLING
COL, IN
Commanding