

## Fort Ord Guestbook

April 2005

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**Date:**

02 Apr 2005

**Time:**

03:43:23

**Name or Email**

chris phillips (cphill851@bellsouth.net)

**Comments**

Great site that brings back many memories for me. I took basic at Ord from Jun-Aug 72. Hard to believe that 32 years have elapsed since then. Would love to hear from anyone in C-2-2. (Wonder what ever happened to Drill SGT Daniels?) Sad to see the dilapidated bldgs., weeds, etc. in the current pictures of the place. It certainly wasn't like that when I was there!

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**Date:**

03 Apr 2005

**Time:**

13:19:11

**Name or Email**

SgtMajor1@aol.com

**Comments**

I took my basic training in Company M, 22d Infantry, beginning in July 1947. I was selected to remain in the company after training and stayed there until March 1949. I returned to Ft Ord in October 1949 and was S3 Sgt, 1st Bn, 8th Infantry until June 1950 at which time the 22d, which had been inactivated,

was reactivated to handle the influx of new recruits. I became SgtMajor of 1st Bn, 22d Infantry. The division was subsequently redesignated as the 6th Inf Div and the 22d Inf became the 63d Inf. I don't recall the date that happened. I remained in that assignment until Sep 1951 when I was transferred to Korea. I revisited Fort Ord in 1993 and had a hard time recognizing much of the place. My old company area from 1947 had been torn down and became a motor pool. I was sad to see the fort closed but stuff happens.

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**Date:**

03 Apr 2005

**Time:**

19:27:34

**Name or Email**

Edward Cole edwardmcole@comcast.net

**Comments**

I came across your website after a Google search for Fort Ord. Fort Ord holds a lot of memories for me as I grew up in Marina from 1956 to 1969 before leaving for 4 years in the Navy. My father was a soldier there until he retired as a Sargent in 1964. He finished his Army career there as a guard at the post stockade. I made use of much of Fort Ord's activities growing up there, movie theatres, roller skating at the Soldiers Club, Little League, and bus trips out to Laguna Seca Raceway. My mother was PX manager at both Fort Ord and the Presidio of Monterey and my Father worked for the Navy Exchange after his retirement. The both passed on in the early 1980's. I worked on the base for many different companies as a youngster and teenager including the Catermat which took care of all the vending machines on the base. I also sold snacks out of their truck in the evenings at all the training barracks. I live near San Jose now but my wife and I get down to Monterey at least once every 4-6 weeks. I have lots of memories there and it is sad to see Fort Ord as it is now. Thanks for the website and pictures. Ed Cole

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**Date:**

04 Apr 2005

**Time:**

15:00:05

**Name or Email**

Kelly Christensen

## Comments

My father was at Fort Ord from 1975-1988. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Harold Smead. I would love to hear from people that knew him. My email address is kellbell\_71@hotmail.com

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**Date:**

05 Apr 2005

**Time:**

01:26:33

## Name or Email

rudolph@estradagy.com

## Comments

Greetings, my name is Rudolph (Rudy) Estrada and I went through basic training (B-1-1) from February to April 1969 at Fort Ord. I am currently a Professor with the California State University system and have cause to visit the California State University Monterey Bay campus frequently (Fort Ord). I was just there on Saturday, May 1, and have the following information to report. The face of the old fort is quickly changing. For those of you who have not been there since your last assignment might find it difficult to find your way around. Old wooden barracks are giving way to new student housing and much of what you remember has now taken on a different appearance. If you recall, when entering Fort Ord from Highway 1, just one block north on the main street was the old Doughboy Theater, the PX, the bowling alley and the Grayhound bus depot. Only part of the Old Doughboy Theater still stands. A street widening project has taken away all the buildings and barracks on both sides of the main drag. Proceeding north on the main street eventually took you past the clothing issue warehouses (they are still standing) to the Stillwell Hall Bridge. The bridge is still there but the Hall has been demolished and all that exists is an empty lot looking out the the blue pacific. With all the construction and street widening projects, many of the old streets have barricades preventing ready access to old sites. Quite frankly, I merely moved many of the "traffic cones" to gain access and went about my business. It appeared that construction crews didn't mind as long as you did not interfere with their activities. I ran across several other former veterans about my age (56) in search of souvenirs. Anything that held memories (pieces of their old barracks, old barrack signs, doorknobs, cigarette butt cans, and just anything that held a memory), but I suspect that this is not something that the powers that be would support. There is a section of old barracks where we went through AIT (Infantry and Administration) that still stand. I convinced my wife to go through many of the old structures with me, but she could obviously not relate

to the old memories and feelings that these old buildings recalled for me. I visited the new (but old) cement barracks up on the hill where I did basic training (B-1-1) and was pleasantly surprised to see that my old building was still in tack. In fact, it appears that years ago they converted many of these buildings to individual housing units. I was able to go up to the second floor where I resided during BCT and was immediately flooded with memories, both good and bad. I casually walked down the same cement stair case where I once ran down hoping not to be the last soldier when we were called out by the DI's to join formation on the street. I would strongly encourage any of you who would like to see what remains of Fort Ord to do so ASAP. According to university administration there are aggressive plans to convert much of what exists to university standards. We also drove up to the PT fields up on the hill and much of that has now been converted to off-road bicycling. I was tempted to drive my loaner car through one of the roads leading to Mudd Lake where we bivouaced, but my wife would have no part of it. I was told that much of the open terrain still may have live ordinance on it. There appears to be a small component of military still operating on the base (Language and Intelligence Units) but for the most part there is little to no evidence of any military presence. As I completed my visit there, and as always, I slowly walked between the old barracks and couldn't help to feel a little melancholy. I thought of all the poor young souls who left Fort Ord to Viet Nam and never saw stateside again. I visualized all the memories that existed in the 60's, especially basic training platoons jogging to cadence and being led down the streets by their DI's. Something seems to call me back each time I visit Ord, I seem to be searching for something I lost or someone who might be able to identify to the music of the sixties and someone who appreciates the same era and wants to talk about it. In closing, once again, thanks to Mr. Swann who maintains this site and I will send him over some recent photos and see if he wishes to post them. Good luck to you all. I would be interested in making contact with anyone who participated in BCT in early 1969, especially B-1-1 from February thru April 1969 and AIT early after.

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**Date:**

05 Apr 2005

**Time:**

17:45:32

**Name or Email**

spence835@aol.com

**Comments**

I think this is great, It bring back a lot of memory for me. I was hoping to see my old basic training photo from HQ 3-3 feb.-april 1969 3rd pat. If any one have a photo let me know. James L. Spence

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**Date:**

05 Apr 2005

**Time:**

19:20:01

**Name or Email**

nf.mayes@comcast.net

**Comments**

BCT w/B-1-1 Jan. - Feb. '64. I could write a book about my experiences at Ft. Ord! I was the second to shortest GI in the Company and double-timed it everywhere the Company went. At one point I couldn't clear the barbed wire during a night exercise and became separated from my Company. I have visited the Post several times in the past 5 years and am saddened by the rot and decay. Even the 'new' barracks have fallen prey to inattention and vandals. What I remember, as a trainee, was open bay barracks areas at the end of each floor. My guess is that after BCT was discontinued, the open bay barracks areas were converted to 4 man squad rooms (yes, I've been inside the barracks). Would love to hear from any one who trained with me in B-1-1 Jan. & Feb. 1965.

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**Date:**

06 Apr 2005

**Time:**

19:01:03

**Name or Email**

[SgtMajor1@aol.com](mailto:SgtMajor1@aol.com)

**Comments**

I took my basic training in Company M, 22d Infantry, beginning in July 1947. I was selected to remain in the company after training and stayed there until March 1949. I returned to Ft Ord in October 1949 and was S3 Sgt, 1st Bn, 8th Infantry until June 1950 at which time the 22d, which had been inactivated, was reactivated to handle the influx of new recruits. I became SgtMajor of 1st Bn, 22d Infantry. The division was subsequently redesignated as the 6th Inf Div and the 22d Inf became the 63d Inf. I don't recall the date that happened. I remained in that assignment until Sep 1951 when I was transferred to Korea. I revisited Fort Ord in 1993 and had a hard time recognizing much of the place. My old company area from 1947 had been torn down and became a motor pool. I was sad to see the fort closed but stuff

happens. Charles R. Carlson,

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**Date:**

07 Apr 2005

**Time:**

05:20:54

**Name or Email**

[SgtMajor1@aol.com](mailto:SgtMajor1@aol.com)

**Comments**

I just went through the entire guestbook looking for someone from my old Ft Ord unit, Co M, 22d Inf. I finally found one who said he was there the same time I was (47 - 51) and he did not even sign his name, email address, or anything. Boy was I disappointed. People should not do that. Charles R. Carlson, SgtMaj, Retired

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**Date:**

07 Apr 2005

**Time:**

07:46:36

**Name or Email**

[Robert Moxley \[moxleyrob@hotmail.com\]](mailto:moxleyrob@hotmail.com)

**Comments**

My dad David Moxley is looking for a guy he went through AIT with at Fort Ord in 1970 he was his platoon SGT and they were from the same hometown Lubbock, Texas. The man's name is Danny Novak if anyone has heard of him or if you happen to remember anything about my dad please let me know.

Thanks,

Robert Moxley

**Date:**

09 Apr 2005

**Time:**

23:02:20

**Name or Email**

David Wester DWESTER2@austin.rr.com

**Comments**

My gosh, I dont know where to begin...

Seeing the Sillwell building come down in pictures makes me so so sad. That was one heck of a place, with one heck of a view of the bay. On a clear day you could see all the way from Carmel to Santa Clara...

Hearing from you guys who were at Ord in the late 40's is impressive. I was there in 76/77 and I imagine it wasnt very different from when you were in. Now it seems according to the information on this site that the place is disappearing to be reborn again.

I came back from Korea in Dec 76, and was assigned to the 2/10 Air Cav unit. I was a 26V20 (Strategic Microwave) and there was no such MOS at Ord. I could have been assigned to a satellite tracking station that was in the middle of nowhere in California, but once I saw Monterey and what there was in the area, I 'let' myself be talked into becoming the company armorer.

Ord was a great place to spend my last year of Army service. I missed Korea something fierce (left a girl back there, donchaknow) and was 'homesick' for it. But there are worse places to be assigned than Ord. That place was huge. I had so many great times there (once downed a bottle of Jim Beam, almost on my own). I never appreciated the Army as much as I should have when I was in, or the great places I was assigned (Fort Monmouth was great, too).

To you men who served back in the 40's, thank you for your service. I wasnt really worthy of the kind of sacrifice you guys made, I was too much like Hawkeye Pierce at the time, too wiseass to know and understand what the Army was and what it meant. I am certainly proud of my time now, and sometimes wish it was yesterday, even for a day, to see all those great people I served with.

I would never have believed they would take Ft Ord apart, and I'm sad they have. I think it would be pointless to go back now and look for things I knew, they probably arent there any longer. I will just live with my memories, and the odd picture I can find on the 'net, like the ones here.

I hope someone else understands what I'm saying here. It kind of chokes me up to think about these things now, and I dont know why.

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**Date:**

09 Apr 2005

**Time:**

23:02:20

### Name or Email

R Vasquez [BVASQUEZ@peoplepc.com]

### Comments

This is a great site, brings back a lot of good memories. Drafted on November 21, 1966 in St. Louis MO. Sent direct to Fort Ord. Sid BCT in C-3-1, on to LPC and AIT. After AIT went to Drill Corporal School then Drill Sergeants School. After DI School I was lucky enough to be assigned to C-3-1, how neat to be a DI in the same company you took Basic. Spent the last four months of my tour in D-5-1 as the training NCO

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#### Date:

20 Apr 2005

#### Time:

22:42:07

#### Remote User:

### Name or Email

test

### Comments

test

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#### Date:

21 Apr 2005

#### Time:

09:06:50

#### Remote User:

### Name or Email

James Nelson wa7jn@aol.com

## Comments

Company b-4-1 July64-sep64 I was there anyone from this outfit please get in contact. looking for old army friends

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**Date:**

21 Apr 2005

**Time:**

22:15:55

**Remote User:**

## Name or Email

Bill Fifer alf@nitline.net

## Comments

I took my AIT at Fort Ord starting Jan. 1962. C-10-3 The site brings back many memories.

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**Date:**

22 Apr 2005

**Time:**

06:34:18

**Remote User:**

## Name or Email

## Comments

**Date:**

22 Apr 2005

**Time:**

07:06:15

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

Carinacarina80@hotmail.com

**Comments**

JIMMY ROGERS where are you? You dated my mother in the late 50 th. My mother, Britt Bergqvist, was Swedish and she lived at 515 North Marengo, Pasadena Ca. She told me, Catherine, that you joined the Marin corps and went to Vietnam, and later she got a message that you where lost...But im not sure, beaucase she changed the story time to time. Jimmy, your parents were living at Cocoa beach. Florida. You were born between the 20-30 of July in 1937. You had a friend named, Dale "Buck" Graham, Who was in the Red cross hospital in the spring of 1960. When you wrote to my mother, you wrote from: Put. Jimmy Rogers, RA 14 541233,Det. A. USAG, Fort Ord, California. Please if ther someone how know anything, let me know.

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**Date:**

22 Apr 2005

**Time:**

07:12:47

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

carinacarina80@hotmail.com

**Comments**

xtJIMMY ROGERS where are you? You dated my mother in the late 50 th. My mother, Britt Bergqvist, was Swedish and she lived at 515 North Marengo, Pasadena Ca. She told me, Catherine, that you joined the Marin corps and went to Vietnam, and later she got a message that you where lost...But im not sure, beaucase she changed the story time to time. Jimmy, your parents were living at Cocoa beach. Florida. You were born between the 20-30 of July in 1937. You had a friend named, Dale "Buck" Graham, Who was in the Red cross hospital in the spring of 1960. When you wrote to my mother, you wrote from: Put.

Jimmy Rogers, RA 14 541233, Det. A. USAG, Fort Ord, California. Pleas if there is someone how knows enything,let me know.

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**Date:**

22 Apr 2005

**Time:**

17:30:51

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

mike smith manchu69@sbcglobal.net

**Comments**

I want to thank Rudy Estrada for updating us after his visit to Ft. Ord recently. I took my AIT there in 1969 with B-4-2. I remember running around the area as described and remember those runs up to mortor training. At the time those we bad time but looking back I believe they were some of the best.

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**Date:**

23 Apr 2005

**Time:**

21:51:09

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

chev210383@yahoo.com

**Comments**

Ed Rozanski I was stationed at Fort Ord Army Hospital from Jan 65 till Oct 66. It was a great event in my life..the memories of the fog rolling in every evening, and the great view of the ocean we had right from the hospital on clear days. Laying on the beach at Carmel... it's funny I couldn't wait to get out now I wish I could go back. I worked in Personnel for colonel Zeigner. Any one remember please email. Hello JJ, Springsteen, Hanson, Weaver and Bobbi S.

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**Date:**

24 Apr 2005

**Time:**

15:16:17

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

Joseph Palmer

**Comments**

Just curious if anybody went through basic with my father Gerald Palmer? He would have gone through basic in the summer or fall of '72.

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**Date:**

24 Apr 2005

**Time:**

19:17:13

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

airclaxon@adelphia.net

**Comments**

I was at Ord from March 1956 to July 1957 when I was discharged. I did most of my loafing at Watsonville. Paul Claxon airclaxon@adelphia.net

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**Date:**

25 Apr 2005

**Time:**

16:01:20

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

STVEGREGG@JUNO.COM

**Comments**

ANY ONE FROM C-2-1 COMPANY IN 1969. BASIC TRAINING. LETS CHAT.

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**Date:**

26 Apr 2005

**Time:**

15:12:41

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

kelly christensen

**Comments**

**Date:**

26 Apr 2005

**Time:**

15:12:57

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

**Comments**

**Date:**

27 Apr 2005

**Time:**

22:09:10

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

Phxicee@hotmail.com

**Comments**

Basic training FEB-thru-AUG 1962 my Drill Sgt was (Sgt lampa) looking for anyone in my unit {D-5-1} The day of graduation a helicopter trying to landed between the barracks crashed landed on one of the barracks . Retired MSGT/William,Allaire.(Arizona) E-mail me. Thank you for this site.

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**Date:**

30 Apr 2005

**Time:**

03:34:35

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

H.Dennis Evans hdennis439@aol.com

**Comments**

Basic Nov.1959 New Barracks on the Hill (Ser.Hill)

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**Date:**

30 Apr 2005

**Time:**

06:25:36

**Remote User:**

**Name or Email**

Moises Jacobo Jacobolaurel@aol.com

**Comments**

looking for james palmer or Lance Turner went to seaside with them we are fort ord brats