DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 15TH REGIMENTAL SIGNAL BRIGADE
606 BARNES AVENUE
FORT GORDON GEORGIA 30905-5729

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ATZH-TB

4 September 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL ASSIGNED AND ATTACHED MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Policy Letter #11: Graduation Requisite to Complete Capstone FTX

1. Reference: TRADOC Regulation 350-6, Enlisted Initial Entry Training (IET) Policies and Administration, Chapter 3-13, 19 July 2012.

2. This policy letter defines the requirement for all Soldiers in training to successfully complete the Mercury Fusion Capstone Exercise in order to graduate and PCS or return to their home station.

3. All Soldiers in training, both Military Occupational Specialty-Initial (MOS-I)/Military Occupational Specialty-Trained (MOS-T), will participate in Mercury Fusion Exercise (MFE) within the last four weeks of their MOS training. In order to successfully complete MFE, Soldiers must commence training in their identified cycle, participate in all training events, remain motivated, and demonstrate the standards for each task, reflective of the instruction and training received. The following are the only exceptions:

a. Soldiers may attend essential appointments through coordination with MFE Ops and their respective parent unit. Essential appointments are defined as PHA, POR, dental, and other medical appointments required to PCS. Upon completion of the appointment, the Student will return to the MFE training area to resume participation in the exercise.

b. Soldiers holding valid physical profiles will be screened upon arrival to Mercury Fusion, Day 1. 551st Signal Battalion will develop a list of suitable positions that Soldiers on physical profile can hold during MFE training events, if the Soldier's profile precludes their actual participation.

4. MFE Waiver: Two types of waivers to this policy may be acceptable:

a. NG/AR Soldiers that are not extended by their State/Unit to fulfill this training requirement may be granted a waiver. **The approval authority for this waiver is their respective Battalion Commander.**

b. Soldiers that have extremely sensitive profiles or profiles that severely limit their ability to live in the FOB training area atmosphere may be granted a waiver. **The approval authority for this waiver is their respective Battalion Commander.**

5. MFE Dismissal: Soldiers who are dismissed from MFE are required to attend the training at the next available MFE training iteration. The following are reasons that Soldiers may be dismissed from MFE:

a. Appointment abuse. The aforementioned medical appointments should be held to a minimum. After eight (8) total hours of missed time at Mercury Fusion, Soldiers will be dropped from the cycle and required to restart Mercury Fusion on the next available iteration; typically the following week.

b. Creating disciplinary detractors. Soldiers who are insubordinate, demonstrate lack of motivation, or any other type of disciplinary detractor to the training will be counseled once. Upon a second counseling for failing to improve, the Soldier will be dismissed from MFE and returned to their unit.

6. The Soldier's Battalion Commander retains the decision to recycle the Soldier, to authorize the Soldier a waiver, or take other actions with the Soldier should they be dismissed.

7. Accountability:

a. Mercury Fusion Operations cell will provide each Battalion S3 with a daily accountability roster.

b. At the conclusion of Day 3, MFE Ops will provide each Battalion S3 with the MFE Completion Roster.

8. The point of contact for this memorandum is the Brigade S3 at (706) 791-2944.

STEPHEN A. ELLE
COL, SC
Commanding