3CAB Welcome Letter

Welcome to the Marne Air Family!

Congratulations on your assignment to this proud and distinguished unit. We are thrilled to have you and your family as part of the Falcon family! We are proud to have you on our team, and you should be proud of the opportunity to add to the "Marne Air" legacy.

The brigade consists of Headquarters and Headquarters Company “Talons”, 2-3 General Support Aviation Battalion “Knighthawk”, 1-3 Attack Battalion “Vipers”, 4-3 Assault Helicopter Battalion “Brawlers”, and 603rd Aviation Support Battalion “Workhorse.”

Our Soldiers are not only highly trained and disciplined but are also relentlessly focused on achieving mission success. We take pride in our operational excellence and in fostering a culture of professionalism, respect, and accountability both on and off duty. Achieving our mission requires each of us to possess the competence, commitment, and readiness necessary to carry any burden.

To these ends, we expect every Soldier in Falcon Brigade to be physically fit, fully committed to mastering their craft, and embodying the Falcon Culture. We expect leaders to inspire commitment through empathy, respect, engagement, and integrity. We are a trusted, reliable, and ready organization that flies and fights together!

You are becoming part of more than just a brigade—you are joining a family. We recognize that the demands of our profession extend to our loved ones, and we are dedicated to supporting our Soldiers and their families throughout their journey with us. Our Soldier and Family Readiness Group (SFRG), unit leadership, and community partners are all here to assist you in integrating, connecting, and thriving.

We encourage you to contact your sponsor, leadership team, and SFRG representative if you have any questions as you prepare for your arrival at Hunter Army Airfield. Transitioning to a new unit can be challenging, but we are committed to making the process smooth, informed, and welcoming.

We take pride in the legacy and responsibility we uphold, and we are eager to see the positive impact you will have within our formation. We look forward to serving alongside you in FALCON BRIGADE!

History

The lineage of the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) began with the activation of the 3rd Aviation Company on July 1, 1957, at Fort Benning, Georgia, assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division. Over two decades later, on November 16, 1984, the unit was provisionally activated as the US Army's first combat aviation brigade within a mechanized infantry division. It was officially activated on March 15, 1985, as the Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division. Following the end of the Cold War and the Gulf War era, the brigade was briefly inactivated on August 16, 1991.

Reactivation and Early Deployments

The brigade was reactivated on February 16, 1996, at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia, when the 24th Infantry Division was reflagged as the 3rd Infantry Division. The unit quickly proved its operational capability by deploying to Kuwait in February 1998 to support Operation Desert Thunder. Between September 2000 and October 2001, elements of the 3rd CAB were deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina in support of the NATO-led Stabilization Force (SFOR 8 and 9) to enforce the Dayton Peace Accords.

Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)

Following the September 11 attacks, 3CAB deployed to Kuwait in 2002. On March 20, 2003, the brigade led the aviation assault as part of 3ID’s main effort during the invasion of Iraq. The brigade played a vital role in shaping the battlespace during the march to Baghdad. After the fall of Baghdad, "Marne Air" remained to secure the city.

In 2004, the unit was redesigned as the Army's first modular Combat Aviation Brigade. It deployed again to Iraq in 2005 (OIF III), where the brigade flew more than 80,000 hours supporting 26,000 combat missions. During the 2007 "Surge" (OIF V), the brigade completed over 250 air assaults and executed 5,700 MEDEVAC missions over 15 months, accounting for a significant portion of enemy forces neutralized in the Multi-National Division-Center area.

Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)

In November 2009, 3CAB reorganized as *Task Force Falcon* and deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom X. This marked the first time a brigade-sized element from 3ID served in OEF. TF Falcon flew over 160,000 combat hours, provided continuous rotary-wing operations, and conducted vital humanitarian relief efforts in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The brigade deployed to Afghanistan again in early 2013, assuming responsibility for conventional Army aviation operations across multiple Regional Commands in the country.

Recent Operations and Modernization

In recent years, 3CAB has continued to project combat power globally. In 2020, 2023, and 2025 the brigade deployed to Europe in support of *Operation Atlantic Resolve*, training across Poland, Germany, Latvia, Romania, Greece, and other allied nations. This mission focused on strengthening NATO relationships, enhancing interoperability, and deterring regional aggression. Today, operating out of Hunter Army Airfield, the "Falcon Brigade" continues to fly, maintain, and modernize premier aviation platforms, standing ready to fight together as the vital aviation component of the Rock of the Marne.

3CAB Command Teams

Title	Rank	Last Name	First Name
Commander	COL	Harless	Robert
CSM	CSM	Lord	Jennifer
CCWO	CW5	Carbajal	Antaner (A.C.)
HHC BDE	CPT	Lane	Calvin
	1SG	Downey	Chase
2-3 GSAB	LTC	Carroll	Beau
	SGM	Woolever	Craig
1-3 AB	LTC	Liggett	William
	CSM	Bolin	Troy
4-3 AHB	LTC	Sudweeks	Michael
	CSM	Kurz	Karl
603rd ASB	LTC	Rigney	Jeffrey
	CSM	Manwaring	Michael