**Fort Bragg (North Carolina)**

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*The article is about the US Army post in North Carolina. For the City in California with the same name, see* [*Fort Bragg, California*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Bragg,_California)

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| **Fort Bragg** | |
| Near [Fayetteville, North Carolina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fayetteville,_North_Carolina) | |
| Shoulder sleeve insignia of units stationed at Fort Bragg | |
| **Type** | Military Base |
| **Built** | 1918 |
| **In use** | 1918-Present |
| **Controlled by** | [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) |
| **Garrison** | [XVIII Airborne Corps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XVIII_Airborne_Corps) [82nd Airborne Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/82nd_Airborne_Division) [Special Forces Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_Forces_(United_States_Army)) [Delta Force](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Special_Forces_Operational_Detachment-Delta) [John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_F._Kennedy_Special_Warfare_Center_and_School) |

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| **Fort Bragg, North Carolina** | |
| —  [**CDP**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Census-designated_place)  — | |
| Location of Fort Bragg, North Carolina | |
| Coordinates: [35°8′21″N 78°59′57″W﻿ / ﻿35.13917°N 78.99917°W﻿ / 35.13917; -78.99917](http://stable.toolserver.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Fort_Bragg_(North_Carolina)&params=35_8_21_N_78_59_57_W_type:city(29183)_region:US-NC) | |
| [**Country**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries) | [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) |
| [**State**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_divisions_of_the_United_States) | [North Carolina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Carolina) |
| [**County**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_counties_in_North_Carolina) | [Cumberland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cumberland_County,_North_Carolina) |
| [**Area**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Area) | |
| **- Total** | 19.0 sq mi (49.2 km2) |
| **- Land** | 18.9 sq mi (49.1 km2) |
| **- Water** | 0.1 sq mi (0.2 km2) |
| **Population** ([2000](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census,_2000)) | |
| **- Total** | 29,183 |
| **-**[**Density**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population_density) | 1,540.0/sq mi (594.6/km2) |
| [**Time zone**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [Eastern (EST)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_American_Eastern_Time_Zone) ([UTC-5](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC-5)) |
| **- Summer (**[**DST**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daylight_saving_time)**)** | EDT ([UTC-4](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC-4)) |
| [**ZIP codes**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ZIP_code) | 28307, 28310 |
| [**Area code(s)**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telephone_numbering_plan) | [910](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Area_code_910) |
| [**FIPS code**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Information_Processing_Standard) | 37-24260 |

**Fort Bragg** is a major [United States Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army) installation, in [Cumberland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cumberland_County,_North_Carolina), and [Hoke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoke_County,_North_Carolina) Counties, [North Carolina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Carolina), [U.S.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States), near [Fayetteville](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fayetteville,_North_Carolina). It is also a [census-designated place](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Census-designated_place) and as of 2000, had a population of 29,183. The fort is named for Confederate Army General [Braxton Bragg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braxton_Bragg).

**History**

Camp Bragg was established on September 4, 1918, as an artillery training ground. It was named for a native North Carolinian, Gen. [Braxton Bragg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braxton_Bragg), who fought in the [Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Civil_War). In early 1921, two field artillery units, the 13th and 17th Field Artillery Brigades, began training at Camp Bragg.

Camp Bragg was renamed Fort Bragg, to signify becoming a permanent Army post, on September 30, 1922. The Field Artillery Board was transferred to Fort Bragg on February 1, 1922. From 1923 to 1924, permanent structures were constructed on Fort Bragg, including four brick barracks, which still stand.

**World War II**

By 1940, the population of Fort Bragg had reached 5,400; However, in the following year, that number ballooned to 67,000. Various units trained at Fort Bragg during [World War II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II), including the [9th Infantry Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/9th_Infantry_Division_(United_States)), [2nd Armored Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2nd_Armored_Division_(United_States)), [82nd Airborne Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/82nd_Airborne_Division_(United_States)), [100th Infantry Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/100th_Division_(United_States)), and various field artillery groups. The population reached a peak of 159,000 during the war years.

**Postwar**

Following World War II, the 82nd Airborne Division was permanently stationed at Fort Bragg, the only large unit there for some time. In July 1951, the [XVIII Airborne Corps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XVIII_Airborne_Corps_(United_States)) was reactivated at Fort Bragg. Fort Bragg became a center for unconventional warfare, with the creation of the [Psychological Warfare Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychological_Warfare_Center) in April 1952, followed by the [10th Special Forces Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/10th_Special_Forces_Group).

**Vietnam War**

In 1961, the [5th Special Forces Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5th_Special_Forces_Group) ([Airborne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airborne_forces)) & The [29th Artillery](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=29th_Artillery&action=edit&redlink=1) was activated at Fort Bragg, with the mission of training counter-insurgency forces in Southeast Asia. Also in 1961, the "Iron Mike" statue, a tribute to all Airborne soldiers, past, present and future, was dedicated. In June 1972, the [1st Corps Support Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Sustainment_Command_(Theater)) arrived at Fort Bragg.

**1980s**

The 1980s saw a series of deployments of tenant units to the [Caribbean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caribbean), first to [Grenada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasion_of_Grenada) in 1983, [Honduras](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Golden_Pheasant) in 1988, and to [Panama](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_invasion_of_Panama) in 1989. The 5th Special Forces Group departed Fort Bragg in the late 1980s.

**1990s**

In 1990, the XVIII Airborne Corps along with 82nd Airborne Division deployed to [Kuwait](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuwait) in support of [Operation Desert Storm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_War). The mid and late 90s saw increased modernization of the facilities on Fort Bragg. The World War II wooden barracks were largely removed, a new main post exchange was built, and the Devers Elementary School was opened, along with several other projects.

**21st century**



Troopers of the 82nd training on Fort Bragg



One of the signs at an entrance to the fort.



Barracks of the 1st Brigade at Fort Bragg



Paratroopers in training at Fort Bragg

Following the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, the units on Fort Bragg have seen a sizeable increase to their Operations Tempo (OPTEMPO), with units conducting two, three, or even four or more deployments to combat zones. The Korean War-era barracks that house the 82nd Airborne Division are currently (as of time of writing: January 2007) being torn down and replaced. Both [FORSCOM](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FORSCOM) and [USARC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Army_Reserve_Command) Headquarters are scheduled to relocate to Fort Bragg by the summer of 2011 as part of the Base Realignment and Closure (2005) initiative which recommended that Fort McPherson, GA, (current location of both commands) be closed.

**Tenant units**

Several [airborne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airborne_forces) units of the U.S. Army are stationed at Fort Bragg, notably the [XVIII Airborne Corps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XVIII_Airborne_Corps) HQ, the [82nd Airborne Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._82nd_Airborne_Division), and the [United States Army Special Operations Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Special_Operations_Command) (USASOC). In addition to these and other [tenant units](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Tenant_unit&action=edit&redlink=1), [Pope Air Force Base](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Air_Force_Base) is also adjacent to Fort Bragg.

Other units stationed at Fort Bragg include the:

* [1st Sustainment Command (Theater)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Sustainment_Command_(Theater))
* [1st SFOD-D](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delta_Force)
* [3rd Special Forces Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3rd_Special_Forces_Group) (Airborne)
* [3rd Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery Regiment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/108th_Air_Defense_Artillery_Brigade_(United_States))
* [4th Psychological Operations Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/4th_Psychological_Operations_Group)
* [7th Special Forces Group](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/7th_Special_Forces_Group) (Airborne)
* [10th Press Camp Headquarters](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/10th_Press_Camp_Headquarters)
* [16th Military Police Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/16th_Military_Police_Brigade) (Airborne)
* [18th Aviation Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/18th_Aviation_Brigade) (inactivated in 2006)
* [18th Fires Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/18th_Fires_Brigade_(United_States))
* [20th Engineer Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/20th_Engineer_Brigade) (Airborne)
* [35th Signal Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/35th_Signal_Brigade) (deactivated and colors moved to Fort Gordon, GA, as a non-Airborne unit)
* [44th Medical Command](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/44th_Medical_Command)
* [82nd Sustainment Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/82nd_Sustainment_Brigade)(Airborne)
* [95th Civil Affairs Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/95th_Civil_Affairs_Brigade) (Airborne)
* [95th Civil Affairs Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/95th_Civil_Affairs_Brigade) (Airborne)
* [101st Chemical Company](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/101st_Chemical_Company_(United_States))
* [112th Special Operations Signal Battalion](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=112th_Special_Operations_Signal_Battalion&action=edit&redlink=1) (Airborne)
* [189th Infantry Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/189th_Infantry_Brigade)
* [B Company, 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/249th_Engineer_Battalion_(United_States))
* 270th Signal Company (Airborne)
* [525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/525th_Battlefield_Surveillance_Brigade_(United_States))
* [722nd Ordnance Company (EOD)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/722nd_Ordnance_Company_(EOD))
* [108th ADA Brigade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/108th_Air_Defense_Artillery_Brigade_(United_States))
* [John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_F._Kennedy_Special_Warfare_Center_and_School)
* [Joint Communications Unit](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_Communications_Unit)
* [U.S. Army Parachute Team](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Army_Parachute_Team)
* [Womack Army Medical Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Womack_Army_Medical_Center&action=edit&redlink=1)

**Geography**

Fort Bragg is at 35°8'21" North, 78°59'57" West (35.139064, -78.999143).

According to the [United States Census Bureau](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau), the base has a total area of 19.0 square miles (49.2 km²), of which, 19.0 square miles (49.1 km²) of it is land and 0.1 square miles (0.2 km²) of it is water. The total area is 0.32% water.

According to the Army Officer's Guide by LTC(R) Keith E. Bonn, Fort Bragg occupies 148,609 acres (232.2 sq mi). The main gate is located 10 miles northwest of Fayetteville, adjacent to Highway 24.

**Demographics**

As of the [census](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Census) of 2000, there are 29,183 people, 4,315 households, and 4,215 families residing on the base. The [population density](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population_density) is 1,540.0 people per square mile (594.6/km²). There are 4,420 housing units at an average density of 233.3/sq mi (90.1/km²).

**Racial makeup**

The racial makeup of the base is 58.05% [white](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_(U.S._Census)), 25.25% [African-American](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_American_(U.S._Census)), 1.15% [Native American](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native_American_(U.S._Census)), 1.84% [Asian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asian_(U.S._Census)), 0.87% [Pacific Islander](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Islander_(U.S._Census)), 8.29% from [other races](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Race_(U.S._Census)), and 4.55% from two or more races. 15.77% of the population are [Hispanic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispanic_(U.S._Census)) or [Latino](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latino_(U.S._Census)) of any race.

**Households**

There are 4,315 households out of which 85.3% have children under the age of 18 living with them, 88.9% are [married couples](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marriage) living together, 7.2% have a female householder with no husband present, and 2.3% are non-families. 2.1% of all households are made up of individuals and 0.0% have someone living alone who is 65 years of age or older. The average household size is 3.72 and the average family size is 3.74.

**Ages**

The age distribution is 25.8% under the age of 18, 40.9% from 18 to 24, 32.3% from 25 to 44, 1.1% from 45 to 64, and 0.1% who are 65 years of age or older. The median age is 22 years. For every 100 females there are 217.1 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there are 293.5 males. All of these statistics are typical for military bases.

**Income**

The median income for a household on the base is $30,106, and the median income for a family is $29,836. 10.0% of the population and 9.6% of families are below the [poverty line](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poverty_line). Out of the total population, 11.4% of those under the age of 18 and 0.0% of those 65 and older are living below the poverty line.

**Events of note**



[*Bronze Bruce*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Special_Warfare_Memorial_Statue)

* In 1967, [Manuel Noriega](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manuel_Noriega), who would later go on to become the dictator of [Panama](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panama), received [Psyop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psyop) training at this location.
* On February 17, 1970, the pregnant wife and two daughters of [Jeffrey R. MacDonald](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeffrey_R._MacDonald) were murdered. The events surrounding the murders were retold in the book [Fatal Vision](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatal_Vision), itself made into a television miniseries of the same name.
* On October 27, 1995, [William Kreutzer Jr.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Kreutzer_Jr.) opened fire at Fort Bragg, killing an officer and wounding 18 other soldiers.
* On June 28, 2005, President [George W. Bush](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_W._Bush) gave a nationally televised speech at Fort Bragg to reaffirm the United States' mission in Iraq.
* On April 2008, after YouTube video posting video over the living condition in Fort Bragg barracks, Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Dick Cody describe "there's no excuse." Officials at the base acknowledged there are serious problems. Ed Frawley said the Army had promised to have new barracks ready when his son's unit, part of the 82nd Airborne Division, returned. However, the construction was behind schedule, so the unit lived in the 50-year-old buildings after the unit's return. The video triggered response from US senator [Elizabeth Dole](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Dole) to contact the secretary of the Army.
* On July 28, 2008, President Bush approved of the execution of [dishonorably discharged](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_discharge) former Ft Bragg Army Specialist subsequently demoted to private, [Ronald A. Gray](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ronald_A._Gray), after he was [court-martialed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Court-martial) by a Ft. Bragg [military court](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_court), found [guilty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guilty) and [sentenced](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sentence_(law)) to death, in 1988, for multiple, brutal rapes and murders and [attempted](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attempt) murders of military and civilian women. He is being housed in the prison at [Fort Leavenworth, Kansas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth,_Kansas). On November 19, 2008, the death sentence was approved to be carried out on December 10, 2008. The last such approval of a military execution was given by President [Dwight D. Eisenhower](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dwight_D._Eisenhower), in 1957. The execution was carried out in 1961.
* Richard David Smith (age 26) is an American Soldier in the United States Army. He is currently being held without bail at the Cumberland County Detention Center in Fayetteville, NC. He is charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, for the stabbing death of United States Army Sgt. Christina E. (Loehrke) Smith, his wife.

**See also**

* [The Special Warfare Memorial Statue](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Special_Warfare_Memorial_Statue) (*Bronze Bruce*)
* [Pathfinder](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathfinder_(military))
* [Pope Air Force Base](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Air_Force_Base)
* [Camp Mackall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Mackall)