

JOHN M. WRIGHT, JR.

Major General

Commandant, USAIS

And

Commanding General

Fort Benning

General Wright graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1940 with a Bachelor of Science Degree. His first assignment was XO with the 91st Coast Artillery (Philippine Scouts). General Wright commanded the 155mm howitzer battery that fired the last round in the defense of this island, Immediately after, he was captured and spent three and one half years as a prisoner of war of the Japanese. After hospitalization following World War II, General Wright was assigned to the Intelligence Section of the War Department General Staff. In 1947 he attended Airborne School at Ft. Benning. He next served as a military attache to the American Embassy in Asunicion, Paraguay. In 1950 he was XO of the Infantry Regiment following which he attended the advanced course at the Infantry School, Ft. Benning. For the next year he was Battalion Commander with the 508th Airborne Regimental Combat Unit, followed by attendance at the Command and General Staff College. He served in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division as the XO of the 32d Inf Reg AC of S, G1 and later as AC of S, G4. In 1960 he attended the National War College. General Wright was assigned as Division Commander of the 11th Air Assault Division in 1964 and during this tour he attended the Army Aviation School at Ft. Rucker, Alabama and is now a qualified Army Aviator. In September of 1966 General Wright was assigned as chief of the Study Group on Aviation Requirements for the Combat Structure of the Army in the Office of the Force Development at Department of the Army.

### SIDNEY M. BERRY Brigadier General Assistant Commandant, USAIS



Colonel Piper was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry upon his graduation from the University of New Hampshire in 1941. He came to Fort Benning for the officers basic course and after nearly a year as a platoon leader in a training company and an anti-tank company in California he returned to Fort Benning for Airborne training. He joined the 50th Parachute Infantry Regiment in August 1942 and served in six European campaigns with this unit as a platoon leader, company commander, regimental adjutant and regimental S2. It was with the 505th that he made 4 combat iumps in Europe.

From 1949 to 1952 Colonel Piper was at Fort Campbell, Kentucky as a battalion commander, regimental executive officer and division plans officer in the 11th Air-

borne Division.

After graduating from the US Army War College in 1959 Col. Piper served for 3 years on the Joint Staff of the Caribbean Command in the Canal Zone. Again returning to the states in 1962 he became director of the Airborne Service Test Division at Fort Bragg and left this research and development assignment in 1965 when he assumed command of the 2nd Training Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. In 1967 Col. Piper joined MACV in

In 1967 Col. Piper joined MACV in Vietnam and was deputy in the training directorate and later assistant senior to the Vietnamese II Corps Commander at Pleiku.

On 1 July 1968 he assumed command of the newly organized Candidate Brigade here at the US Army Infantry School.



ROBERT M. PIPER
Colonel, Infantry
Commanding Officer
The Candidate Brigade

# ARMY INFANTRY SCHOOL MISSION OF THE OFFICER CANDIDATE PROGRAM OF THE UNITED STATES

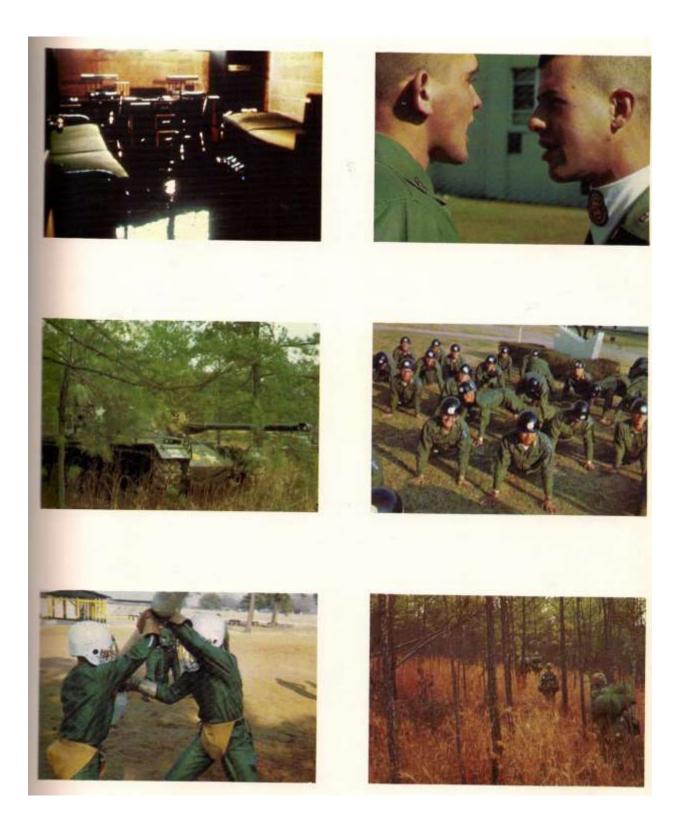
"To develop selected personnel to be Second Lieutenants of the Army of the United States who will be capable of performing duties appropriate to their grade in the Infantry units, and who, with a minimum of additional branch training, will be prepared to serve as Second Lieutenants of other branches designated by the Department of the Army. The secondary mission is to serve as a basis for mobilization as the needs of the service require."

The Officer Candidate Course at the United States Army Infantry School is a period of transition, training, and leadership evaluation for selected enlisted men and warrant officers who have demonstrated leadership potential, which prepares them to assume the increased responsibilities of a commissioned officer. To accomplish this the Officer Candidate Program is divided into three distinct phases: Basic, Intermediate, and Senior.

The basic phase is one in which there is extensive supervision by the Tactical Officer in any and everything the Officer Candidate does. The Officer Candidate is given the basic rudiments of leadership and the emphasis is on leadership potential rather than demonstrated leadership.

The intermediate phase is one of less direct supervision by the Tactical Officer over the Officer Candidate. In connection with this decrease in supervision is an increase of command responsibility. Emphasis during this phase is now on demonstrated performance of leadership potential.

The Senior phase is the culmination of all efforts to create a high quality Infantry officer. In this phase there is little supervision by the Tactical Officer; however, the Senior Officer Candidate must assume greater responsibilities with emphasis on demonstrated performance. In many instances the Senior Officer Candidate might be considered a "Third" Lieutenant.















## HISTORY OF THE INFANTRY OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

The idea for an Officer Candidate School for infantry was conceived in June 1938 when a plan for an officer training program was submitted to the Chief of Infantry by Brig. Gen. Asa L. Singleton, Commandant of the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga. No action was taken until July of 1940, at which time Brig. Gen. Courtney Hodges, Assistant Commandant of the Infantry School, submitted a revised plan. This new program went into effect 1 year later, in July of 1941, when the first officer candidate class began. The course lasted 13 weeks and was limited to warrant officers and enlisted men with at least 6 months of service. Subsequently other branches adopted the idea and established their own OCS.

Gen. Omar Bradley, who became Commandant of the Infantry School in March of 1941, established the principles and standards of discipline and leadership that are still in offect today. The honor code, administered by the candidates themselves, was also installed under the guidance of General Bradley.

The purpose of the subjection of candidates to the rigorous OCS program was best explained by General Bradley when he said: "Early in the course the fact must be brought out that these candidates should stop thinking as enlisted men, and think as officers. As enlisted men, someone else worries about plans and about looking after the men as officers they must plan and think of their responsibilities. The discipline must be of a very much higher type than that of an enlisted company.

At the beginning of the program, classes were reporting at 5-week intervals. World War II, however, brought about an increase in the need for officers, and classes were stepped up. The phrase "90-day wonder" became accepted military terminology, and at Fort Benning alone more than 100,000 candidates were enrolled in 448 officer candidate classes from July 1941 to May 1947. Over 67,000, some 67 percent, completed the course and were commissioned. It was by far the biggest and fastest "commissioning job" ever attempted by an army. But quality was not sacrificed for quantity. On battlefields from Anzio to Okinawa, one thing was apparent: the "90-day wonder" had what it takes.

With the end of World War II the Army's need for officers diminished, and the OCS for all branches was transferred to Fort Riley, Kans., where it became part of the Ground General School.

But the outbreak of the Korean conflict caused an urgent need for trained combat leaders and many of the branches reactivated their OCS in 1951. Most of these were deactivated around the end of the Korean conflict. The Infantry OCS, however, remained in operation. Late in 1965 the Vietnam conflict again created a need for officers, and many branches reactivated their Officer Candidate School.

Basically, the Infantry OCS is conducted as it was in 1941. However, the subject matter presented has been changed considerably to keep pace with the changes in organization and tactics employed by our modern Army. The system is designed to place the candidate under physical, mental, and emotional stress to stimulate, as closely as possible, the stress and fatigue of combat. Only in this way can the candidate receive an evaluation as to his ability to work and react under such pressure. The officer who is a product of OCS is the type officer who should make it possible for every unit commander to say: "Send me more graduates like the ones I have now!"



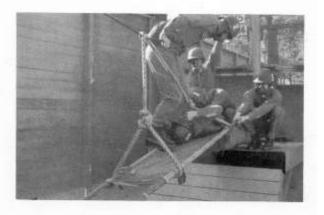
#### Leadership Reaction Course

. . . is a test of leadership potential and ingenuity. The course is designed to require the Officer Candidate to exercise leadership traits in solving situational problems, thereby providing him and the instructor with a basis for identifying and improving his leadership weaknesses.

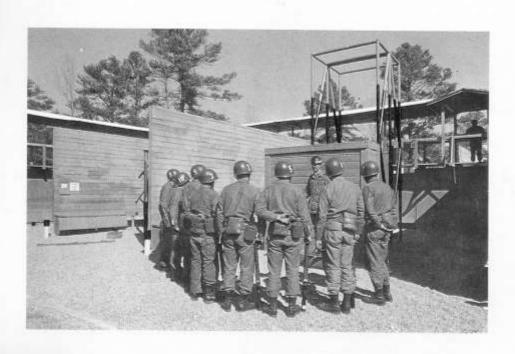
Each Candidate is given the opportunity to be the leader of his team. He must analyze the situation, formulate plans, and then direct the accomplishment of his mission within a specified time.

The course involves land and water

The course involves land and water situations and there are times when the "most obvious ways" are "dampened . . ."









### **TACTICS**

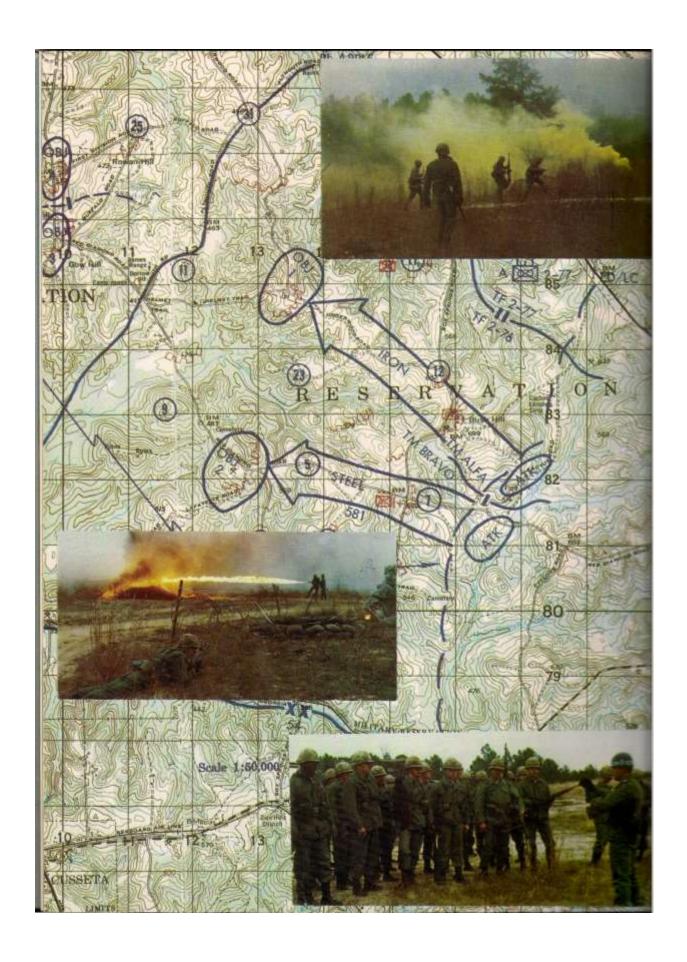
The primary mission of the Infantry Officer Candidate Course is to produce qualified Lieutenants of Infantry. To attain this goal over fifty percent of the Officer Candidate Program is devoted to combined arms tactics.

The basic rudiments of leadership from the smallest unit tactics, the rifle squad, to the larger company and Infantry Team Tactics, along with

"School Solutions" are thoroughly discussed in classroom instruction followed by long hours of practical field exercise. The officer candidate is placed in tactical situations and given the opportunity to apply his knowledge of tactics. He soon learns that without a sound knowledge of Infantry tactics and proper utilization of supporting elements, the mission cannot be accomplished without the needless loss of lives and material.

### 1/66 Inf.





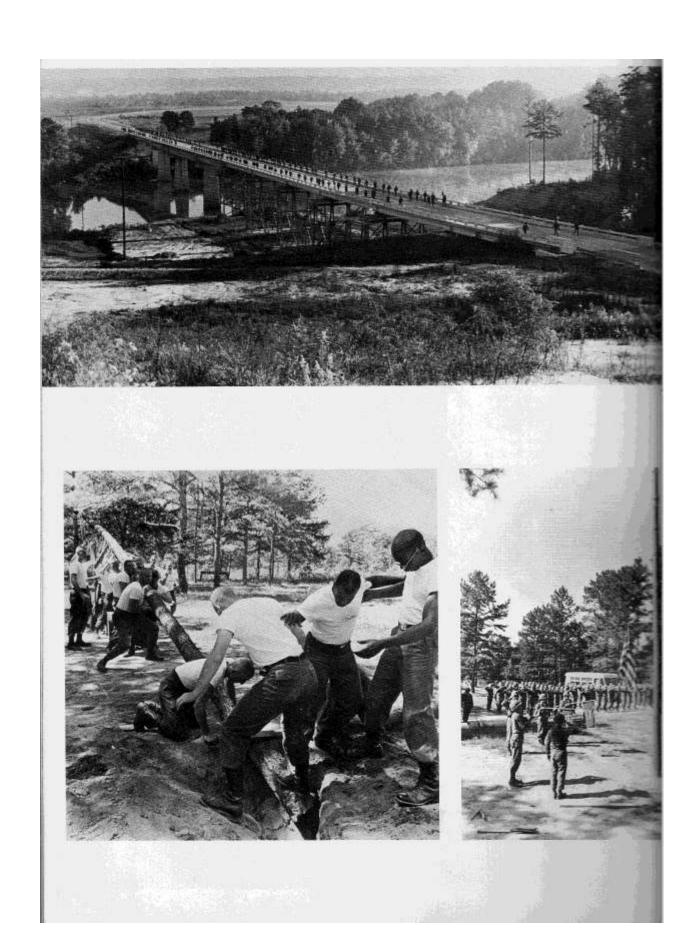
It has been said that if you get lost on a night problem and find a hill-top without a set of bleachers on it, you are no longer in the Fort Benning Military Reservation. Former OCS candidates have been known to avoid football games for years following their Infantry School training bécause of the necessity of watching them from bleachers. Some have also been known to keep a miniature bleacher at the foot of their bed to look at before going to sleep at night; bleachers are universally known for their soporific effect.

The truth is that the majority of instruction given to candidates is conducted in the field on topics with which the Infantry leader must be intimately familiar. Careful location of the bleacher sights allows candidates to view company operations, a tank platoon in the attack, or adjustment of artillery fire.











#### Administrative Bivouac

After four weeks of being garrison soldiers, the OC's were given the opportunity of living out in the field and of communing with nature. They were able to experience the various problems encountered by soldiers when setting up a bivouac area and they learned that proper military ceremonies still had a place in the field. Traditionally, the OC's made a forced march from Georgia to Alabama before making camp.



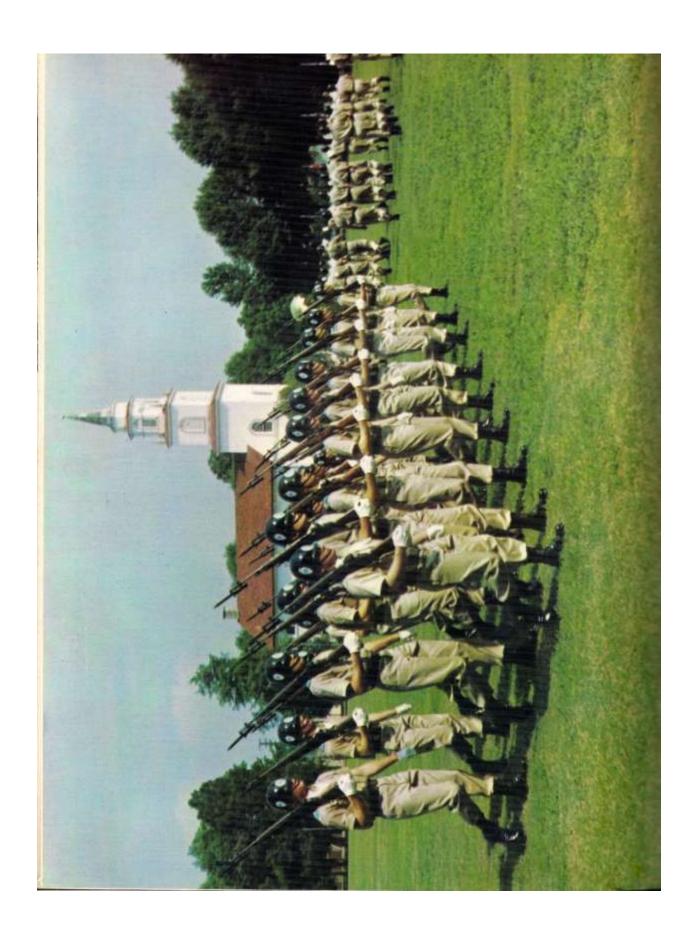


Hand to Hand









### **BLUE DAY**









### **WEAPONS**

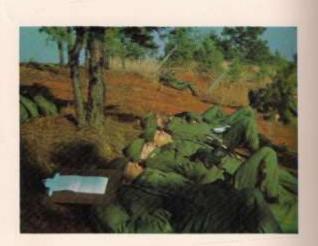
As in any profession, the skilled worker has certain "tools of his trade". For the Infantryman the tools are many weapons which vary from small caliber to the larger sophisticated types. During weapons training the officer candidate learns not only how to fire, but the mechanical characteristics and capabilities of individual weapons as well.

Proficiency is the key to handling all weapons organic to Infantry units. As a potential platoon leader, the officer candidate must learn to operate and be able to teach his men the steps necessary to maintain proficiency. Without such knowledge the tools of combat are useless.

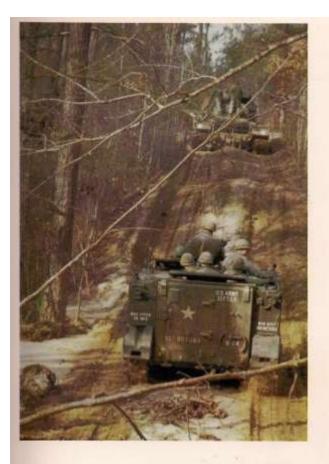


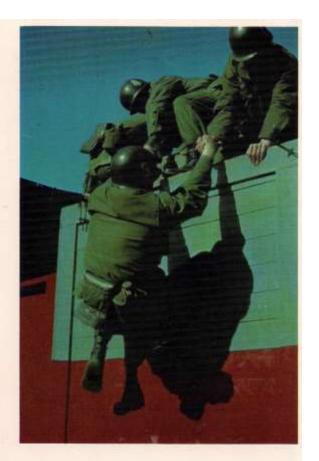


































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### Physical Combat Proficiency Test

The Physical Combat Proficiency Test (PCPT) is used to measure the agility, strength, stamina, and coordination developed in OC's by their Tactical Officers. It consists of five events, each worth a maximum of 100



five events, each worth a maximum of 100 points. In the first event, the forty yard low-crawl, the participant must maintain chest to hip contact with the ground at all times. The next three events may be run in any order. In the dodge, run, and jump, a ditch and four hurdle course must be negotiated four times. The grenade throw consists of two practice and five record throws at a target 90 feet away. One to eight points are awarded depending on proximity to the target. In the horizontal ladder the particieach rung and traverse as many bars within pant must suspend his total weight from each rung and traverse as many bars within a one minute time limit as possible. The final event is the mile run.





#### Obstacle Course

The obstacle course was designed by the Ranger Department to test physical strength, endurance, and agility. The obstacles encountered in this course simulate those which might be encountered under actual combat conditions and instill confidence in the participating Officer Candidates. A sense of realism is added by the requirement that field gear and rifles be carried through the course.







### **River Crossing Techniques**

River crossings have long been among the most difficult of all combat movements. Whether in the heat of summer or the frigid cold of winter, men and equipment have to be transported across these natural watery barriers. Crossing through near-freezing water, these OC's still remember that day as the coldest of the program.

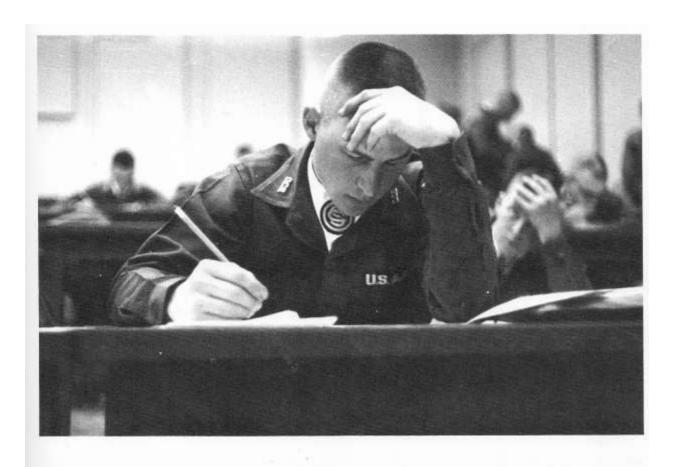


### **ACADEMICS**

The attaining of professional knowledge enables the officer candidate to successfully assume the duties of a second lieutenant upon graduation. Thus, one of the principle duties of each candidate is to study, understand and retain the instruction presented. Study time is alloted each day in the evenings. During this time the officer candidate prepares for the following day's classes.

Class time comprises over seventy-five percent of the officer candidates' daily schedule, in which fundamentals, theories, and controlled problems are analyzed and learned. Later phases of instruction enable the Officer Candidate to demonstrate his acquired knowledge through practical exercise.





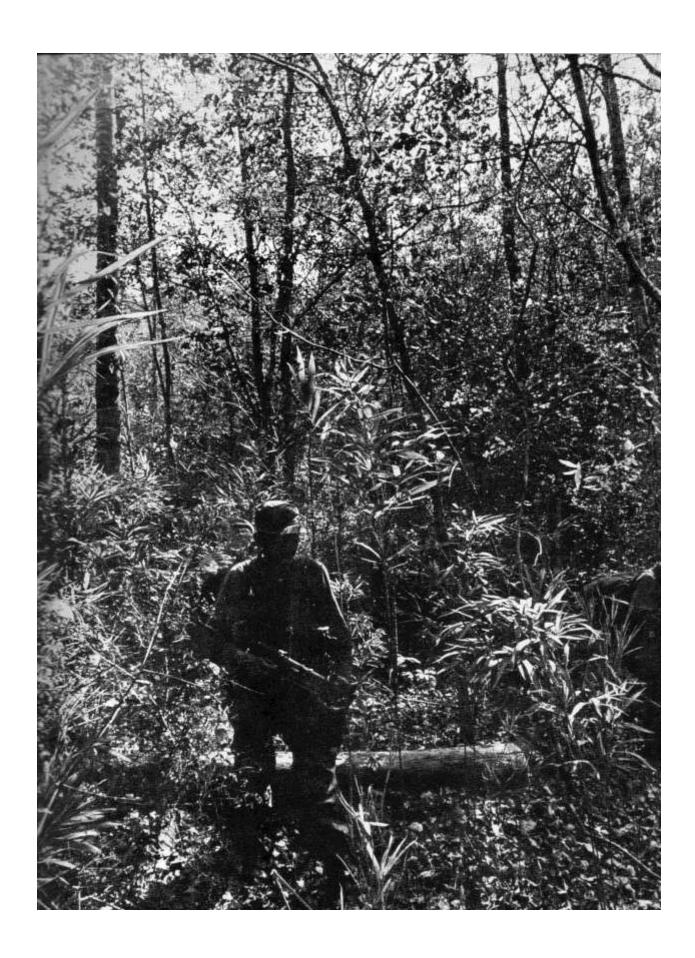


### Ranger Problem



Counter-guerilla and patroling operations given by the Ranger department makes up a very vital portion of OCS. For five days and four nights the OC's trampled through the swamps and forests of Quitman County learning various techniques of small unit tactics. The bitter taste of water purified by iodine tablets and the rank taste of unwarmed lima beans still linger in the mouths of many dauntless OC's. Every night half of the men stayed awake to maintain security against the aggressors while the other half tried to sleep on the hard Georgian ground. Yet most of the OC's will readily admit that this training was among the best they received.

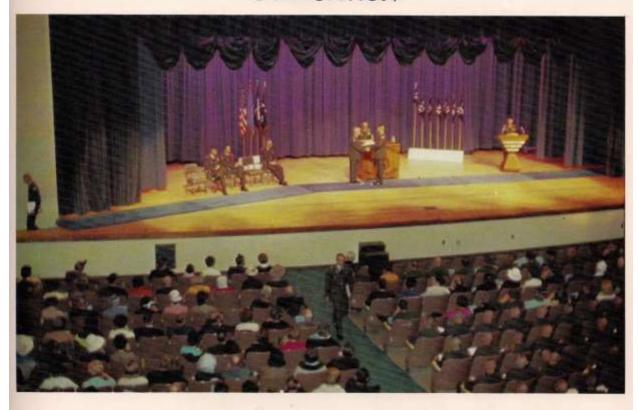








### GRADUATION





### ALMA MATER

Far across the Chattahoochee To the Upatoi Stands our loyal Alma Mater Benning's School for Boys.

Forward ever, Backward never Faithfully we strive To the ports of Embarkation Follow me with pride.

When it's time and we are called To guard our country's might We'll be there with head held high To lead in Freedom's fight.

Yearning ever, Failing never To keep our country free The call is clear, we meet the task For we are Infantry.

### OCS PRAYER

Almighty God, we who will soon become leaders of men, come to you for guidance in this awesome responsibility.

We pray for humility, O Lord, that any existing selfishness, arrogance, and vanity may be removed from our lives.

Grant us patience in dealing with the mistakes of our fellow Man. Let us never forget that no man is perfect, but that perfection for fragile humans is trying each day to be better than the day before.

Keep ever before us our goal, which is not to perpetrate war but to safeguard your greatest gift to man — Freedom.

Let us never forget our duty to the men whom we will lead. May we instill in them the qualities of honor, integrity, and duty.

Remind us that wisdom is not gained in an hour, a day, or a year. But that it is a process that continues all the days of our lives.

Give us courage, O Lord, in the face of danger. Keep us pure in Heart, clean in mind, and strong of purpose.

May you always be near, to guide us in our decisions, comfort us in our failures, and keep us humble in our successes.

We ask your devine blessings as we continue to prepare for the great honor of serving our country.

Walk close to us always, Our Father, that we may not fail.

# 66 OCS

### THOSE WHOM WE REMEMBER



JOHN ROSS 1945 - 1969

We came from a myriad of states across the land to learn and train together. In the months of OCS we grew to know each other well and formed more than just "a working relationship." The team that we formed has relied on each member's efforts on behalf of his fellows, so much so that the loss of a man was keenly felt. Such a loss was the sudden death of Officer Candidate John Ross.

As leaders of men in combat we will live daily in the shadow of such eventualities and know its tragic meaning all the more clearly. It is to John Ross and the men of our company that these pages are dedicated.



LTC GRADY W. WILLIAMS Battalion Commander



CPT. EDGAR B. TAYLOR, III Company Commander



LT. DAVID A. O'STEEN Executive Officer

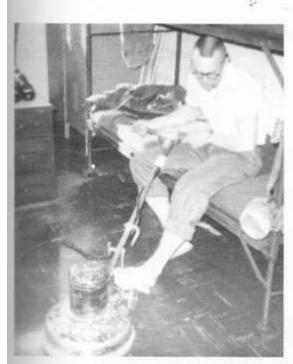
DONALD W. LARIMORE First Sergeant



66th O.C.S. CO.











The House



TISCHER, JERRY A. 2d Lt., Inf.



Forced to live on the first floor and thus under the close scrutiny of the tacs, 1st Platoon maintained a sharp appearance at all times.

Abbot, David K. Adkins, James R. Buford, Simeon T. Davis, Richard L.



Evans, Richard S. George, Robert C. Givens, Ronald R. Goldau, Konrad G.

Handy, Richard E. Heaton, Chad G. Jacobs, Richard B. Jones, Thomas S.





Lilly, Lawrence E. McQuin, James M. Moore, Joel Nee, Owen D., Jr. Pavlik, Donald C.

Post, Ronald J. Tenney, Dennis W. Schultz, Douglas R. Shoup, John G. Yargo, John, III



















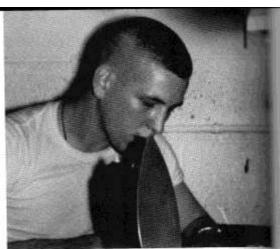






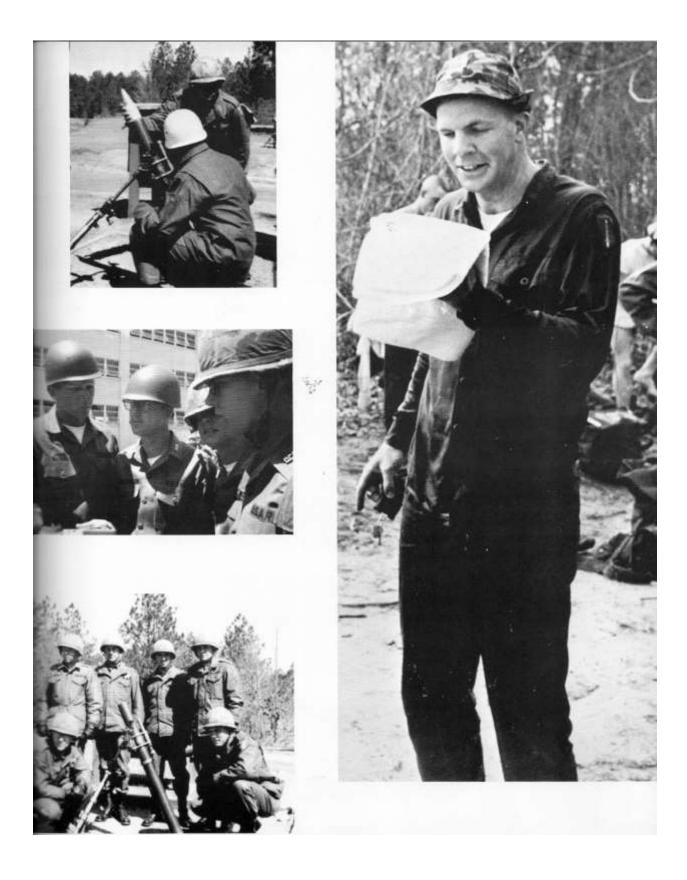














FRANK, BRIAN D. 2d Lt., Inf.



Bivouac competition offered another chance for the men of Lt. Frank's 2nd Platoon to cheer the platoon on to victory in the company.

Baldwin, Robert L. Brehm, Walter T. Butler, Kenneth H. Champagne, Leo A.









Clark, Douglas S. Davis, Daniel C. Finn, Thomas C. Gipson, Robert E.









Godfrey, Edward Hoover, Joseph E. Kattouf, Theodore H. La Garde, Michael J.









Looney, Cullen R. Loyal, Robert H. Lukey, Edward J. Lulves, William J.









Mascola, Raymond L. Murphy, Kevin V. Novack, Ronald A. Phillips, Robert W. Pierce, Randall W.











Pliskie, Kenneth J. Ragan, Walter P. Ray, Richard J. Ridley, William T. Rohs, Melvin











Shoemaker, John C. Spinden, James Tarbell, Frederick E. Thill, Robert A., Jr. Thomas, Charles R.

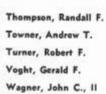
















































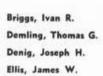


NYLANDER, JOHN R., JR. 2d Lt., Inf.

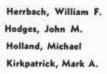


The perfect end to a day of river crossings is to escort your tactical officer to the water's edge for a quick dip in the icy river.

Adams, Ronald W. Anderson, William V. Armbruster, Isidore J. Bratz, Michael C.

















Lampe, Eric A. Latimer, Michael R. Nicholfs, Kenneth E. Nilsson, Jeffrey A. Novak, Joseph J.

Rossiter, Steven C. Schaber, Thomas J. Slack, Steven D. Sollmann, William J. Spatholt, Edgar J.

Spicer, Kenneth R. Stunyo, George J. Templet, Michael D. Yauger, Robert H. Walker, Darryl R.































ULRICSON, JOHN R., JR. 2d Lt., Inf.



Classes with the Ranger Department gave the platoon a chance to dress in its Sunday-best and pose for the folks back home.

Avery, Danny L.

Boerner, Michael R.

Boutwell, Herbert C., III

Calton, Dennis A.









Camarella, Robert N.
Cotton, John P.
Cunningham, George K.
Derham, Paul J.









Doyle, Paul E. Ganley, Paul F. Gentle, John S. Hahner, Richard G.









Hodges, Robert W. Huntington, Royal M. Kennedy, Gene A. Lagerbloom, James









LeClerc, Robert G. McArthey, Dennis P. Mac Donald, Vernon S. Manfred, Mark T. Merrifield, John A.











Milam, John R. Nelson, Terry T. Nutt, Kenneth D. Printz, Edward M. Raudman, David S.











Russel, Bruce M. Shields, Joel G. Smith, Larry Spirlet, Raymond J. Stennes, Stephen L.











Stewart, Walter L. Stuchell, William T., III Weaver, Allison L. Wilkinson, Douglas R.





































ROBINSON, WILLIAM L. 2d Lt., Inf.



A hilltop critique of the last problem gives these members of the 5th platoon a better understanding of what went both right and wrong.

Arvidson, Richard N. Babtist, Robert J. Baxter, Joseph J. Berlin, James A.









Booth, Philip W. Deome, Alfred J. Dorchester, Robert L. Freese, Terry









Harris, Gerald E. Helm, Harry C. Hungerford, Steven E. Jack, Richard E.









Jouvelakas, Gary T. Kishur, George R. Lurie, Mark Magnuson, Robert M.









Moody, Winston W. Myers, Clifford A. Naylor, Lynn B. Nix, Jerry D. Occhialini, David J.











Patrick, John E.
Pytash, Theodore P.
Simons, Richard P.
Skelton, Owen R.
Todd, Christopher J.











Totina, Joseph, Jr. Werder, Richard E. Williams, Ralph R.



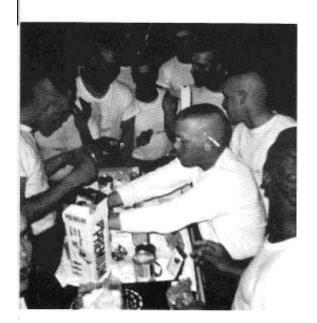




















#### 5TH PLATOON SONG

Oh-If I had a weekend pass I'd tell you what I'd do I'd low crawl to the Boar's Head and pinch a girl or two. But the Fifth is on restriction so screams the intercom Better clean your groddy cubes or you'll die in Viet Nam. Oh-I'd rather be dead than red in the head I'd rather be dead than red in the head. Oh-when I get to Viet Nam I'll tell you what I'll do I'll throw away my M-16 and fix entrenching tool. We learned it on the dogfield one cold and rainy morn The fifth is on restriction A plane will crash today. Here's to you, Lt. Robinson Heaven loves you more than you will know Ho Ho Ho











SCHLENDORF, ROBERT E., JR. 2d Lt., Inf.



The leader's reaction course taxed the problem-solving and leadership abilities of these members of the 6th platoon. Some got wet.

Alsever, Michael H. Ansley, John H., Jr. Bayne, Byron C. Bihn, George F., III









Davis, John L., Jr. Dawalt, Charles R., III Dice, Duane Ekedahl, James G.









Falterman, Monroe L., Jr. Fox, Frederick G., III Gillett, David L. Gray, Phillip, Jr.









Hackett, Robert H., Jr. Henderson, William D. Herek, Timothy L. Hitchens, James R., Jr.

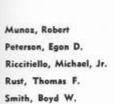


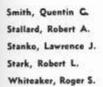






Holeman, Jacob J. Karter, Jibryne E., Jr. Keller, Lewis W., Jr. Kopp, Stephen F. Lester, Steven C.



































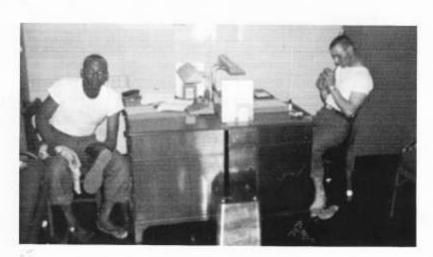


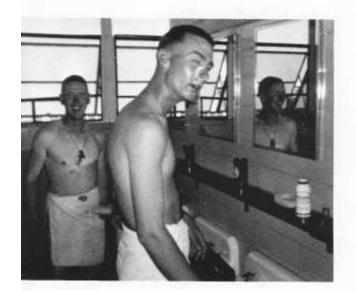


















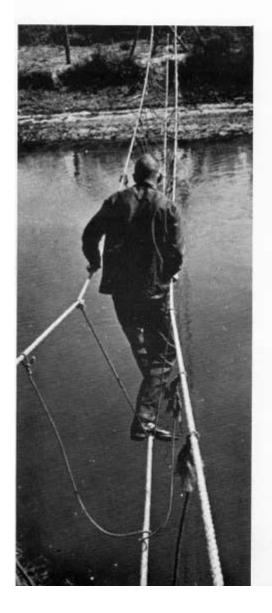






















## 66th Scenes























