



**Class Narrative Class 16-67 H2
3 December 1966 – 24 May 1967
U.S. Army Armor School OCS**



The 32nd class to go through OCS at Fort Knox during the Vietnam War Era was Class 16-67. It was an H2 company. In fact the only H2 company. Its start date was Tuesday 6 Dec 66 with one-hundred twelve Basic Officer Candidates. During the training cycle eight more candidates were cycled into the class from classes 10-67, 11-67, 12-67 and 13-67. Of the 120, ninety-one would graduate on Wednesday, 24 May 67. Six members of the class would be recycled to classes 17-67, 19-67, 20-67 and 21-67. Twenty-three individuals were either relieved or resigned from the course.

The graduation speaker was Colonel Thomas Dooley who was deputy commander and chief of staff of the Armor Center. The Distinguished Honor Graduate was Patrick J. McCabe followed by James C. Nelson who was named the Honor Graduate. The seven Distinguished Military Graduates were in class rank order, Johnathan K. Rice, Grady F. Morgan, David N. Marcato, Merle L. Scott, James D. Huber, Daniel F. White and William F. Tucker, III. Johnathan K. Rice was the winner of the seven-mile Military Stakes course earning 882 points out of the possible 1000. The class average was 84.87. Following the presentation of awards and diplomas, the class response was given by Grady F. Morgan. The class was given the Oath of Office by Officer Candidate Brigade Commanding Officer Colonel Bernard E. McKeever, Jr.

According to the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (VHPA) ten graduates of Class 16-67 completed the Officers Rotary Wing Aviators Course. Fortunately no graduates were killed in Vietnam.

When the names of the company officer cadre were being determined an article in "Inside the Turret" mentioned the name Captain Richard E. Carter as company commander of H Company. H Company XO 1LT George Hildebrandt said he didn't think that was correct, however he couldn't remember for sure the CO's first name but the last name was correct. After our book about OCS at Fort Knox was published George found a Letter of Appreciation that the H Company commander had written for him on 17 Mar 67. The company commander's name was George W. Carter. Following is some compiled information from different sources about George W. Carter.

"Company Commander Captain George W. Carter, later a major in Vietnam in 1972, was assigned to MACV Advisory Team 22. On 24 April 1972 the team's camp at Tanh Canh near Dak To was overrun by the Viet Cong. He and two other advisors were extracted by a Huey helicopter from the 57th Attack Helicopter Company, 52nd Aviation Battalion. On board were five individuals from the 57th and two passengers from unknown units. The helicopter was apparently hit by enemy fire, as it crashed and burned on a small island in the Dak Poko River. Five people survived the crash and confirmed that Major Carter was among the dead. Unfortunately the five bodies were not recovered because of the strong enemy force in the area. Major Carter is listed as Killed in Action, Body Not Recovered."

24 November 2020