



**Class Narrative Class 17-66 D2  
28 February 1966 – 26 May 1966  
U.S. Army Armor School OCS**



Class 17-66, Company D2 was the sixth of the fifty-three OCS classes at Fort Knox during the Vietnam War Era. It was the first of five D2 classes and the second of four classes that completed Phase I OCS training at Fort Knox before being sent to Fort Eustis, Virginia for Phase II training and eventual commissioning in the Transportation Corps. Starting OCS on Monday, 28 February 1966 with 117 Basic Officer Candidate's two candidates from Class 15-66, B2 would be recycled into the class during the training phase. Four of the 119 would be recycled to the third Transportation Corps class at Fort Knox, Class 20-66 and three of the four would graduate with Class 20-66. Twenty-five members of the class would either resign or be relieved from the course. The class would finish Phase I training with ninety candidates on Thursday 26 May 1966 and be sent to Fort Eustis, Virginia for ten weeks of Transportation Corps branch specific training. At Fort Eustis seventy-four Senior Officer Candidates would graduate OCS on 2 August 1966 and be commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps.

The class average is unknown as that was redacted from the class roster. Information from The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association indicates that there were thirteen class members who completed Officers Rotary Wing Aviators Course. Class member Captain Robert T. Wilson was assigned to the 73rd Surveillance Aviation Company, 1st Aviation Brigade and would be killed sixteen days after his Vietnam tour started when the Grumman OV-1 fixed wing Mohawk airplane he was piloting was involved in an air accident. Nineteen members of the class have died since their military service. Thirteen graduates have been located.

MG John J. Lane was the guest speaker at the graduation ceremony at Fort Knox and Fort Eustis. MG Lane was Commander of the Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service. His son John J. Lane, Jr. was a member of the class.

6 July 2019