



**Class Narrative Class 17-67 C2
8 January 1967 – 16 June 1967
U.S. Army Armor School OCS**



Class 17-67, Company C2, the thirty-third of the fifty-three OCS classes at Fort Knox, Kentucky and the third of four C2 classes started OCS on Sunday 8 Jan 67. The class roster kept at the company level indicates that there were 112 individuals who started with the class. Over the course of the cycle seventeen candidates from classes 10-67, 11-67, 12-67, 13-67, 14-67 and 15-67 were recycled into the class for a total of 129 officer candidates on the company roster. Ten members of the class were recycled to classes 22-67, 23-67, 24-67 and 27-67. Seventeen of the 129 would either resign or be relieved from the twenty-three week course. On Friday, 16 Jun 67 102 Senior Officer Candidates would graduate OCS, take The Oath of Office and be commissioned as Second Lieutenants of Armor before pinning on their gold bars.

The graduation speaker was LTC Vernon E. Greene who was CO of First U.S. Army NCO Academy at Fort Knox was introduced by Brigadier General Albin F. Irzyk, the Assistant Commandant of the Armor School. LTC Greene urged the class to take advantage of time and cram every bit of progress into every minute and second. Based on individual academic average The Distinguished Honor Graduate was Joseph J. Smith followed by Honor Graduate Donald W. Bett. The Distinguished Military Graduates were Larry A. Loftus, John F. Stroup, Richard K. Leffingwell, Doyle F. Miller, Arlie R. Enis, Dennis W. Davis, Mason B. Sesler and Peter A. Wasson. The class average was 84.59 and Michael J. Scanlon was the winner of the seven-mile Military Stakes course with 884 points earned out of a possible 1000. After the presentation of diplomas newly commissioned Second Lieutenant Garry T. Moore delivered the class response. Following the graduation ceremony the new officers, their families and friends attended a reception held in the Company C Mess Hall.

Thirteen graduates of the class would attend the Officers Rotary Wing Aviators Course. One graduate, John W. Davis, was retained as a Tac Officer for Class 30-67, Company D1 prior to attending flight school. William T. Lane was retained as HHC Mess Officer. One class member was killed in Vietnam.

A class photo shows the class as Senior Candidates with the C2 guidon and a larger black guidon or flag held by several OC's kneeling in the front row. The black guidon signified the statement, "Ask no quarter, give not quarter". The class adopted the name Black Knights. The black guidon was displayed inside the entry to the barracks with a black suit of armor that some of the class mates constructed out of number 10 tin cans and then painted black.

28 November 2020