



**Class Narrative Class 26-67 A1  
5 April 1967 – 13 September 1967  
U.S. Army Armor School OCS**



The last Company A1 OCS class at Fort Knox during the Vietnam War Era was Class 26-67. The challenging journey to earn their “Butter Bar” started on Wednesday 5 April 1967 and ended on Wednesday 13 September 1967. The class was the 30th class commissioned in the Armor branch and the 42nd OCS class at Fort Knox since OCS was held there during the Korean War. According to the roster kept at the company level the class started with 108 OC’s and five other OC’s were added during the time the class was in-cycle for a total of 108. Of the five, one was re-cycled from Class 18-67, B1; two came from Class 20-67, E2; one from 21-67, F2; and one came from 24-67, B2. Four of the five graduated with Class 26-67. The fifth individual did not graduate OCS.

During the twenty-three week course twenty-nine members either quit or were relieved from the program. Seven were re-cycled to other classes and of those seven four graduated. Two graduated with Class 28-67, F1; one graduated with Class 29-67, G2; and one graduated with Class 30-67, D1. On 13 September 1967, 77 graduated the OCS course and pinned on their “Butter Bar”. The class average was 84.30. Unfortunately there was no news article in Inside the Turret about 26-67’s graduation. According to the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association nine graduates went to flight school. Three of the 77 graduates were killed in Vietnam and ten others have died since their military service. Nineteen graduates have been located.

Class 26-67 had the distinction of having three different company commanders. Captain John H. Dilley, Jr., who had been the company commander for all Company A’s since OCS started at Fort Knox in 1965, was the company commander when the class started. 1LT William L. Busby who had been the senior ranking Tac Officer in Company A2 assumed command of Company A when Captain Dilley left the OC Brigade (date not known). At some time during the week of August 13, 1967 1LT Busby handed over command of the company to Captain John Chomko who had been company commander for two classes in Company B. 1LT Busby had gotten orders for Vietnam. He was assigned to Advisory Team 21, MACV and was killed in action on 21 January 1968.

Distinguished Honor Graduate was George M. Siewers, Jr. The Honor Graduate was Roger L. Mumby, and the Distinguished Military Graduates were Richard P. Blank, Douglas G. Kirchner, Thomas J. Nulty, Darryl E. Meyer, Terry E. Quinn and Albert J. Koehler. Military Stakes Winner was Albert L. Koon who earned 851 points out of 1000 possible. He was a Cobra helicopter pilot and killed in a crash on 15 May 1969 when his aircraft received .51 caliber fire which damaged the tail rotor.

13 September 2018