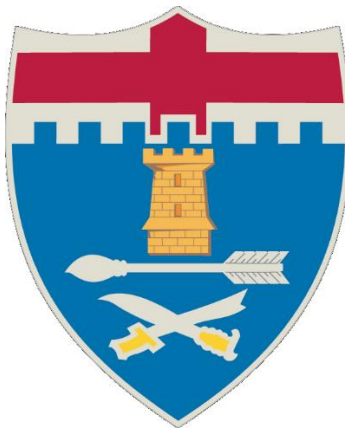


Handbook of the 3^d Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment & The Federal Officer Candidate School

An Orientation to the Battalion, Regiment, and School

Compiled by

The Leaders of the 3^d Chapter of the 11th US Infantry Mess



Fort Benning, Georgia

2025

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited

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Welcome Letter



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY
3^D BATTALION, 11TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
6510 MCVEIGH DR, BUILDING 76
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-6217

ATSH-TPC

2025 Edition

LETTER FOR INCOMING SOLDIERS AND FAMILIES

SUBJECT: Welcome to 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment and the Federal Officer Candidate School

1. Welcome to the 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment in Fort Benning, Georgia, the historic "Home of the Infantry" and now the home of the Maneuver Center of Excellence. Whether you are here as a student, cadre member (Soldier or Army Civilian) or Family member, we are happy to have you as part of our team.
2. You will find that 3-11 Infantry's mission is like no other in the US Military. Our mission is to train, educate, and commission leaders of character who live by the Army ethic. We operate the school that produces the famous "90 day wonder" officers that fill the ranks of the officer corps when national emergency calls for a rapid increase in officers. Our graduates are ready to succeed day one of BOLC-B and ultimately lead our nation's sons and daughters in combat. Our mission is as noble as it is strategically important.
3. The purpose of this handbook is to orient Soldiers, Army Civilians, and Families to 3-11 Infantry and answer as many frequently asked questions succinctly and up front as possible. We hope to provide predictability and shared understanding of the Battalion's mission, culture, and tradition. We hope that this assists you in your transition. We are excited for you to join us!
4. The point of contact for this handbook is the Battalion Operations Officer (S-3).

Signed

Commander & Commandant, and
Command Sergeant Major

3-11 Infantry Battalion Overview

Who we are and what we do.

Unit.

The 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment is a Table of Distribution Allowances (TDA) Infantry Battalion whose mission is to operate the Federal Officer Candidate School and its two programs of instruction: the Officer Candidate School course and the Direct Commission Course. The battalion is assigned to the 199th Infantry Brigade “Redcatchers,” also known as the “Leader Brigade” of the Maneuver Center of Excellence, responsible for all Basic Officer Leader Courses on Fort Benning, Georgia. A TDA unit differs from an “MTOE unit” in that TDA assigned personnel and resources are determined by programs of instruction and required output of students rather than a deployable mission set. However, the unit and the school are not synonymous. It is important to understand that TDA units follow Army systems and processes, maintain accountability, and enforce standards as with any other unit.

Mission

3rd Battalion 11th Infantry Regiment (OCS) trains, educates, and commissions officers in order to provide the Army with leaders of character who live by the Army Ethic.

Vision

Provide the Army a scalable commissioning source to achieve the annual commissioning mission by producing officers to meet the challenges of future operational requirements.

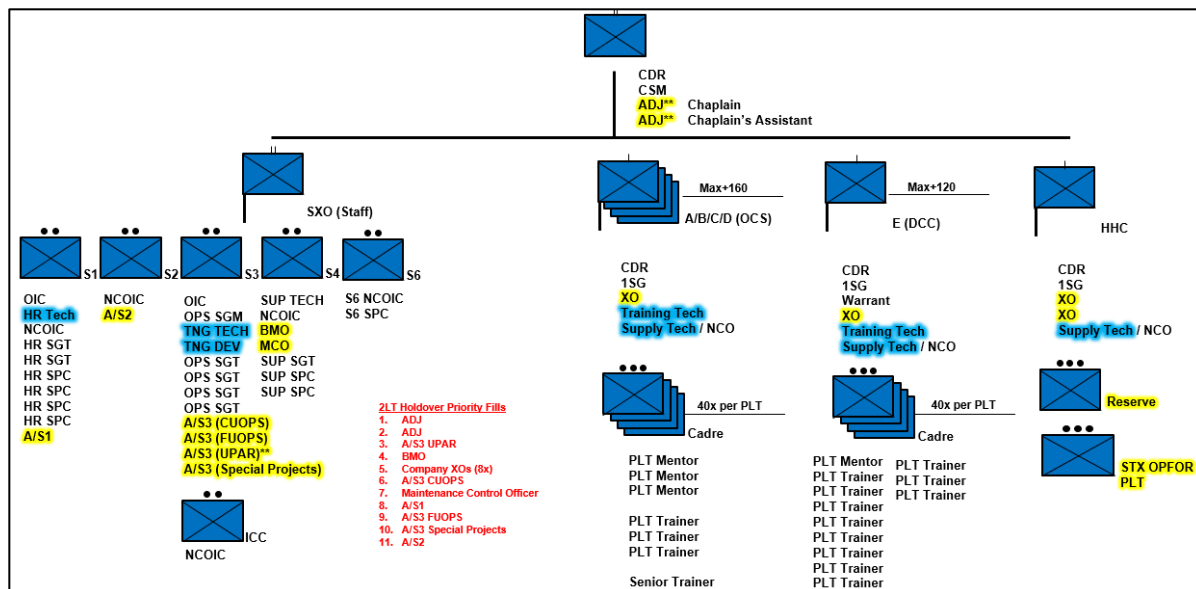
Motto

Regimental: ***Semper Fidelis*** (Always Faithful). Battalion: **Standards! No Compromise!**

Regimental Commander

COL (R) Frank L. Harman

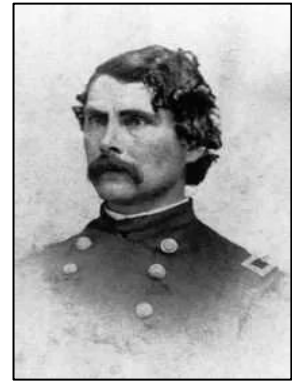
Task Organization



3-11 IN Task Organization. 3-11 IN BN (OCS) consists of five (5) companies: Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) (includes staff and hold overs/ hold under students), A “Attack” Co (OCS), B “Battle” Co (OCS), C “Chaos” Co (OCS), D “Danger” Co (OCS), and E “Executioner” Co (Direct Commission Course/ DCC)

History of the 11th Infantry Regiment

The 11th Infantry was constituted on 3 May 1861 by President Abraham Lincoln. It was organized on 6 May 1862 at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, first as part of the Army of the Ohio and later, a part of the Army of the Cumberland, taking part in such battles as Shiloh, the Kentucky Campaign, Chickamauga, Murfreesboro, the Battle of Atlanta, and the march through Georgia. Following the Civil War, the regiment became known as the Wandering 11th. Between 1898 and 1920, the 1st Battalion made 29 changes of station, including seven years of foreign service. The regiment participated in the Indian Campaigns until the war with Spain in 1898 and saw action in the Puerto Rican Campaign, from 1904 to 1913, the regiment was stationed in the west and saw duty in San Francisco following the 1906 earthquake which almost destroyed the city. The regiment also served as border guards in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, during threatened border trouble with Pancho Villa and his outlaw army.



CPT Russel, CPT Cooley, and CPT Chipman. Past Company Commanders in the 11th Regiment

On 24 April 1918, the regiment sailed for France. By May of 1918 it joined the 5th Division near Chaumont, France. The 11th then took part in the Vosges Mountains, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne offensives. In the second phase of the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the regiment forged a brilliant crossing of the Meuse River. In 1922, the 11th moved to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, and remained there for 17 years.

In 1939, the 11th joined the 5th Division at Fort McClellan, Alabama and by 1942 was on its way to Iceland and remained there for 15 months until the regiment moved to England. The regiment landed in Normandy on 10 July 1944 and fought its way across France as part of General Patton's famed Third Army. The 11th Infantry played a prominent role in the reduction of the fortified city of Metz in the fall of 1944. During the Battle of the Bulge, the 11th counter-attacked into the southern portion of the Bulge, engaging the Germans in bitter winter fighting. On 22 March 1945, the 1st Battalion made a night river assault across the Rhine River at Oppenheim, giving General Patton a division bridgehead over the Rhine two days ahead of Field Marshall Montgomery's famous crossing. The 11th Infantry ended the war in Czechoslovakia.



11th IN Reg. at the Battle of the Bulge

Shortly after its return from the European Theater of Operations, the regiment was retired. It was reactivated in June 1954 in Germany, the 11th returned to Fort Ord, California and became an Infantry Training Unit. On 14 June 1958, the 1st Battle Group, 11th Infantry, was reactivated as part of the 2d Infantry Division at Fort Benning, Georgia where it remained until February 1962 when it was redesignated as the 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry and assigned as an organic element of the 5th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado. In July 1968, the 11th deployed for action in Vietnam and operated in Cam Lo, Dong Ha, Quang Tri, and Khe Sanh. The 11th returned to Fort Carson on 6 August 1971 and served there as part of the 4th Infantry Division until 15 January 1984 when the battalion was inactivated. On 14 August 1987, 1st, 2d, and 3d Battalions, The School Brigade, were redesignated as 1st, 2d, and 3d Battalions, 11th Infantry, and assigned to The School Brigade.

On 8 February 1991, the School Brigade was inactivated and redesignated as the 11th Infantry Regiment. On 27 June 2007, the 11th Infantry Regiment was redesignated the 199th Infantry Brigade. Today, under the 199th Infantry Brigade, 2-11th operates the Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course. 3-11th Infantry operates the Officer Candidate School and Direct Commission Course.





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Lineage and Honors

11th INFANTRY

Constituted 3 May 1861 in the Regular Army as the 2d Battalion, 15th Infantry

Organized 6 May 1862 at Newport Barracks, Kentucky

Reorganized and redesignated 1 December 1866 as the 24th Infantry

Consolidated 25 April 1869 with the 29th Infantry (see ANNEX) and consolidated unit designated as the 11th Infantry

Assigned 17 November 1917 to the 5th Division (later redesignated as the 5th Infantry Division)

Inactivated 20 September 1946 at Camp Campbell, Kentucky

Activated 15 July 1947 at Fort Jackson, South Carolina

Inactivated 30 April 1950 at Fort Jackson, South Carolina

Activated 1 March 1951 at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania

Inactivated 1 September 1953 at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania

Activated 25 May 1954 in Germany

Relieved 1 June 1957 from assignment to the 5th Infantry Division and reorganized as a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System

11th INFANTRY

Withdrawn 14 August 1987 from the Combat Arms Regimental System, reorganized under the United States Army Regimental System, and transferred to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command

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ANNEX

Constituted 3 May 1861 in the Regular Army as the 3d Battalion, 11th Infantry

Organized 20 August 1863 at Fort Independence, Massachusetts

Reorganized and redesignated 1 December 1866 as the 29th Infantry

Consolidated 25 April 1869 with the 24th Infantry and consolidated unit designated as the 11th Infantry

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CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

Civil War
Shiloh
Murfreesborough
Chickamauga
Chattanooga
Atlanta
Kentucky 1862
Mississippi 1862
Tennessee 1863
Georgia 1864

Indian Wars
Comanches

War with Spain
Puerto Rico

Philippine Insurrection
Mindanao

11th INFANTRY

World War I

St. Mihiel
Meuse-Argonne
Alsace 1918
Lorraine 1918

World War II

Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

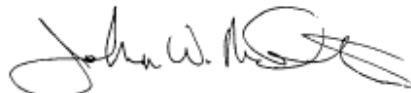
Vietnam

Counteroffensive, Phase V
Counteroffensive, Phase VI
Tet 69/Counteroffensive
Summer-Fall 1969
Winter-Spring 1970
Sanctuary Counteroffensive
Counteroffensive, Phase VII
Consolidation I

DECORATIONS

None

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

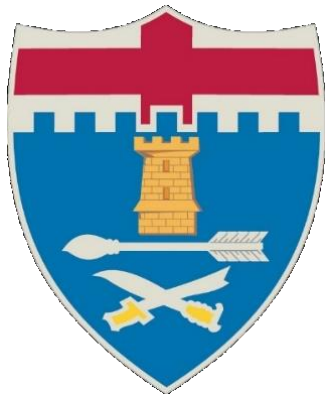


JOHN W. MOUNTCASTLE
Brigadier General, United States Army
Chief of Military History

JUL 30 1998

Regimental Crest and Distinctive Unit Insignia

The distinctive unit insignia consists of the coat of arms. The shield is blue for infantry. Service in the Spanish War is shown by the castle, and in the Indian Wars by Satanta's "arrow." The most important Indian campaign of this regiment was against the Kiowas, Comanches and Cheyenne in 1874. Satanta was a noted Kiowa chief who died before this campaign. His "arrow" was really a spear with feathers on the end and a handle. The kampilan and bolo represent engagements against the Moros of Mindanao and the Filipinos of the Visayas. Service in the World War is shown by the chief bearing the cross of the ancient Lords of Dun to commemorate the crossing of the Meuse at Dun. The embattled partition represents the siege of Chattanooga in 1863. The crest consists of the Civil War badges of the 1st Division, 14th Army Corps and 2d Division, 5th Army Corps, and the World War 5th Division shoulder sleeve insignia. The coat of arms was approved on 12 October 1920.



**The 11th IN Regiment
distinctive unit insignia.**



11th Infantry Regimental Crest

Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

Personnel permanently assigned to 3-11 Infantry wear the 199th Infantry Brigade patch. Personnel assigned to 3-11 Infantry as students wear the Infantry School Patch.



**199th Infantry Brigade
Shoulder Sleeve
Insignia**



**Infantry School
Shoulder Sleeve
Insignia**

History of the US Army Officer Candidate School



The OCS "Road Wheel" Emblem, est. 1941

During the summer of 1940, Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. George C. Marshall, recognized the importance of establishing rigorous training facilities for new officers. His vision for this officer training was first put into action at Fort Benning, Georgia. Brigadier General Asa L. Singleton, Commandant of the Infantry School at the time, established the plan for the modern Officer Candidate School for Infantry. His plan went into effect on July 5, 1941, as the Infantry, Field Artillery, and Coastal Artillery Officer Candidate Schools.

Brigadier General Omar N. Bradley, Commandant of the Infantry School from March 4th, 1941, to February 10th, 1942, is credited with establishing the foundation of training still used in OCS today. Brig. Gen. Bradley emphasized rigorous training, strict discipline and efficient organization. These tenets remain the base values of today's Officer Candidate School. From June 1947 to January 1951, Infantry OCS transferred to Fort Riley, Kansas as part of the Ground General School. Subsequently thereafter, all other Officer Candidate Schools were discontinued to include the Infantry OCS, which was inactivated on November 1, 1947.

A shortage of officers during the Korean War caused the Department of the Army to re-open Infantry OCS at Fort Benning on February 18, 1951. During the height of the Vietnam Conflict, Infantry OCS produced 7,000 officers annually from five battalions. Towards the end of the conflict, a Branch Immaterial OCS was additionally established at Fort Benning in April 1973. The two programs merged in December 1976 to produce a program very similar to the modern OCS program consisting of a 14-week training cycle.

In 2008, during the "The Surge", a term that refers to the 2007-2008 Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn strategy change and subsequent manning increase, necessitated a rapid increase in the output of commissioned officers. USMA and ROTC commissioning sources remained a 4-year program, and OCS adapted to meet this task by shortening the program of instruction from 14 to 12 weeks. The most recent addition, E Company was activated in 2005 and began training in January 2006 with the inherited role of the direct commission company or DCC.

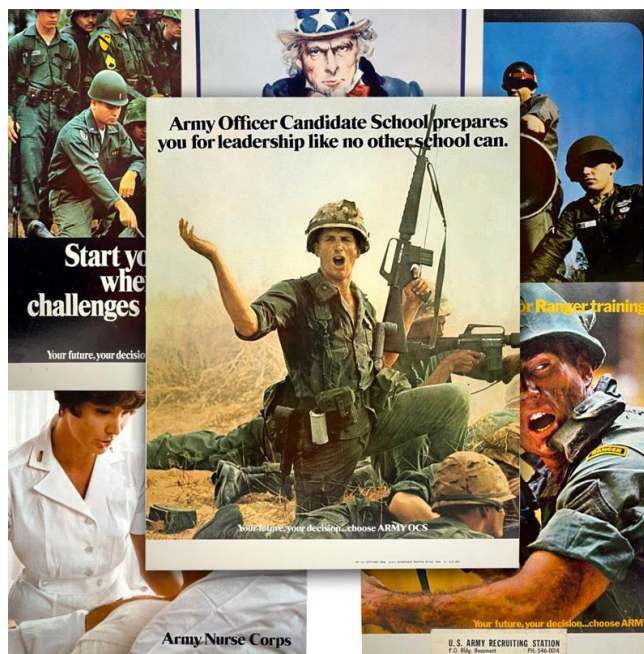
OCS includes many traditions distinct to itself as a commissioning source. These include singing the OCS Alma Mater, wear of the M-1 Helmet Liner with OCS and Infantry School insignia, the wear of ascots to delineate students by phase, marching to the drum, and polishing the cannon.



Graduating OCS class of 1941



Commissioning ceremony: 1944 and 2025



Heroes

OCS has had numerous distinguished graduates and heroes. Among these are 75 recipients of the Medal of Honor, the highest military honor in the United States. Two of these Medals of Honor are on display in the 3-11 Infantry footprint.

Below is a list of OCS Medal of Honor Recipients as of 2025:

1LT Vernon J. Baker
LTC Orville E. Bloch
2LT George W.G. Boyce, Jr.
2LT John E. Butts
2LT Robert Craig
CPT Reginald B. Desiderio
CPT Roger H.C. Donlon
MAJ Kern W. Dunagan
LTC Don C. Faith
2LT Almond E. Fisher
2LT Thomas W. Fowler
1LT James A. Gardner
CPT Florent A. Groberg
LTC Raymond G. Harvey
MAJ Freeman V. Horner
LTC Charles S. Kettles
CPT Edward C. Krzyzowski
1LT Daniel W. Lee
1LT Edgar H. Lloyd
1LT Robert M. McGovern
1LT Gary L. Miller
LTC Charles P. Murray
LTC Carlos C. Ogden
CPT Alfred V. Rascon
1LT Bernard J. Ray
1LT James E. Robinson, Jr.
CPT Gary M. Rose
1LT Donald K. Schwab
LTC Edward A. Silk
LTC James M. Sprayberry
MAJ James A. Taylor
CPT Charles L. Thomas
1LT Robert M. Viale
MG Keith L. Ware
1LT Robert T. Waugh
CPT Eli Whitely
1LT Charles Q. Williams
2LT Raymond Zussman

1LT Arnold L. Bjorklund
1LT Cecil H. Bolton
1LT Francis Burke
2LT Dale E. Christensen
COL Bruce P. Crandall
1LT Stephen H. Doane, Jr.
MAJ John J. Duffy
2LT Harold B. Durham, Jr.
1LT James H. Fields
1LT Douglas B. Fournet
CPT Harold A. Fritz
CPT Joseph X. Grant
1LT Lauren D. Hagen
2LT Robert J. Hibbs
1LT Victor L. Kandle
1LT Jack L. Knight
2LT Darwin K. Kyle
2LT Robert R. Leisy
1LT Walter J. Marm, Jr.
2LT Harry J. Michael
1LT Jimmie W. Monteith, Jr.
COL Robert P. Nett
1LT Robert L. Poxon
CPT Ronald E. Ray
2LT Pau F. Riordan
CPT Robert E. Roeder
1LT Ruppert L. Sargent
COL Robert S. Scott
1LT George K. Sisler
CPT William D. Swenson
CPT Seymour W. Terry
COL John J. Tominac
2LT Francis B. Wai
1LT John E. Warren, Jr.
1LT David C. Waybur
2LT Thomas W. Wigle
MAJ Benjamin F. Wilson



Florent Groberg graduated OCS in 2008. He served in the War in Afghanistan where, in 2012, he was severely injured attempting to thwart a suicide bomber. In 2015, Groberg received the Medal of Honor for his actions.

The OCS Hall of Fame

The OCS Hall of Fame was established in 1958 to honor graduates who had distinguished themselves during WWII through Valorous Combat Leadership and subsequent Superior Meritorious Service. The first honoree was Medal of Honor recipient LT Thomas Wingle. The Hall of Fame building was named in his Honor. The OCS Hall of Fame is a US Army Program administered by the Commanding General of the Maneuver Center of Excellence. The Commander of the 3rd Battalion 11th Infantry is the executive agent to oversee the OCS Hall of Fame Program. The US Army OCS Alumni Association, a not-for-profit 501(c)(19) organization, is the official sponsor of the OCS Hall of Fame Program.

Members of the OCS Hall of Fame are honored for the following:

- Superior Valorous Combat Leadership which includes recipients of the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross
- Superior Meritorious Service which includes successful Battalion and Brigade Commanders; Staff Directors; Program Managers; and Defense Attaché's; Each being Recognized for superior meritorious serving in the rank of Full Colonel or above.
- Distinguished Public Service which includes Member of Congress; Governors of a State; Cabinet Secretaries; US Ambassadors; Mayors of Large Cities; and Federal Judges.
- Superior Public Service which includes High ranking Career Civil Servants (GS-15/ SES); High ranking State Officials; members of State Legislature; Mayors; Sheriffs; Police Chiefs; City Managers; and CEOs of Philanthropies.
- Lifelong Service which includes individuals who have a life of service to the nation and to their community which starts with Valorous Combat Leadership and or Meritorious Service and then continued with outstanding public service through Volunteerism, especially in support of Military Service Members and their Families as well as Military Veterans.

The Hall of Fame can be accessed in Wingle Hall, the OCS Exhibit in the National Infantry Museum, and the OCS Alumni Association website.



The OCS Hall of Fame includes heroes such as MAJ Richard "Dick" Winters and COL Ralph Puckett

Distinguished members of the OCS Hall of Fame have attained National and/or International Recognition of Distinguished Military Service, Public Service, Business Leadership, Education Leadership or Philanthropy. This includes those who achieved the rank of General, the highest rank in today's U.S. Army, US Senators and Members of the House of Representatives, Cabinet Secretaries, US Ambassadors, and those Business, Education, and Philanthropic Leaders who have been recognized by the President of the United States or the United States Congress for Distinguished Public Service.

Distinguished Members of OCS Hall of Fame members are:

HON Robert J. Dole
HON Winthrop Rockefeller
HON Gordon Gray
HON Bill Gates Sr
HON John O Marsh Jr
HON Terance Todman

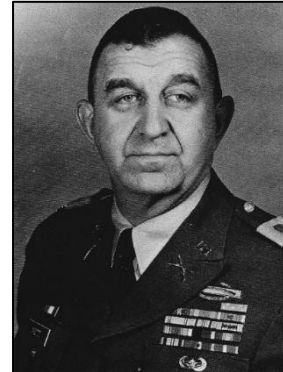
GEN Frederick Kroesen
HON John Dingell Jr
HON Frank Church
HON Caspar Weinberger
HON William F Buckley

GEN Robert Kingston
GEN John ShaliKashvili
GEN Buck Kernan
GEN John Abrams
GEN Bryan Brown
HON Hyrum Smith
GEN Frank Grass

GEN James Lindsay
GEN Leon Saloman
GEN Johnnie Wilson
GEN Tommy Franks
GEN Benjamin Griffin
GEN Jack Merritt
GEN Charles Hamilton

OCS Landmarks

COL Robert B. Nett and Nett Hall



Medal of Honor Citation: He commanded Company E in an attack against a reinforced enemy battalion which had held up the American advance for two days from its entrenched positions around a three-story concrete building. With another infantry company and armored vehicles, Company E advanced against heavy machine-gun and other automatic-weapon fire with Lt. Nett spearheading the assault against the strongpoint. During the fierce hand-to-hand encounter which ensued, he killed seven deeply entrenched Japanese with his rifle and bayonet and, although seriously wounded, gallantly continued to lead his men forward, refusing to relinquish his command. Again he was severely wounded, but, still unwilling to retire, pressed ahead with his troops to assure the capture of the objective. Wounded once more in the final assault, he calmly made all arrangements for the resumption of the advance, turned over his command to another officer, and then walked unaided to the rear for medical treatment. By his remarkable courage in continuing forward through sheer determination despite successive wounds, Lt. Nett provided an inspiring example for his men and was instrumental in the capture of a vital strongpoint.

After World War II, Captain Nett served with the Artillery Center School Troop, Fort Sill, Oklahoma and later with the 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division, Japan, where he became the Inspector General of Kobe Base, Japan. | During the Korean War, Captain Nett was a Company Commander training South Korean soldiers. He later served as the Inspector General of Headquarters Southwestern Area Command, doing classified missions for General MacArthur's Far East Headquarters. | In 1951, Major Nett attended the Regular Advanced Infantry Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was subsequently assigned as an instructor to the Army Ground General School, Fort Riley, Kansas until 1954. From 1954 to 1957, he was the Station Commander of Erlangen Station, Nuremberg, Germany and returned to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to attend the Command and General Staff College. He was subsequently appointed the Chairman of the Attack Committee in the Ranger Department of the Infantry School. In 1963, Lieutenant Colonel Nett was assigned to Vietnam as an advisor the Vietnamese 2nd Infantry Division. Subsequent assignments include the 11th Air Assault (Test) Division; Battalion Commander of the Officer Candidate School, and Deputy Director of the Company Operations, Infantry School. Colonel Nett's final assignment was Chief of Reserve Affairs for Europe, the

Middle East, and North Africa in Heidelberg, Germany. | Colonel Nett received a Bachelor of Science Degree and teaching certificate in Social Science and Industrial Arts. | Colonel Nett's awards and decorations include: the Medal of Honor, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with V Device and two Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab, Airborne Gliderman, Air Assault, and Grand Cross of Malta. | Colonel Nett retired from the Army in August of 1973 and continued his community service as a teacher in the Columbus, Georgia, School System. His record of outstanding performance and achievements continued by being selected as Teacher of the Year in 1985.

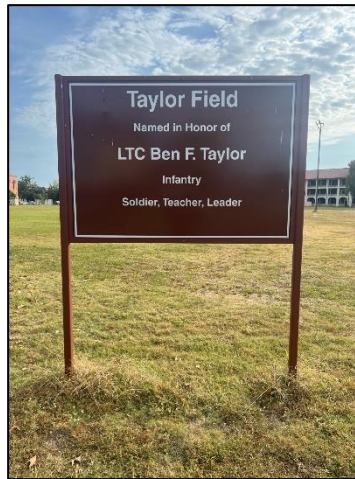
2LT Thomas W. Wigle and Wigle Hall



Medal of Honor Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in the vicinity of Monte Frassino, Italy. The 3d Platoon, in attempting to seize a strongly fortified hill position protected by three parallel high terraced stone walls, was twice thrown back by the withering crossfire. Second Lt. Wigle, acting company executive officer, observing that the platoon was without an officer, volunteered to command it on the next attack. Leading his men up the bare, rocky slopes through intense and concentrated fire, he succeeded in reaching the first of the stone walls. Having himself boosted to the top and perching there in full view of the enemy, he drew and returned their fire while his men helped each other up and over. Following the same method, he successfully negotiated the second. Upon reaching the top of the third wall, he faced three houses which were the key point of the enemy defense. Ordering his men to cover him, he made a dash through a hail of machine-pistol fire to reach the nearest house. Firing his carbine as he entered, he drove the enemy before him out of the back door and into the second house. Following closely on the heels of the foe, he drove them from this house to the third where they took refuge in the cellar. When his men rejoined him, they found him mortally wounded on the cellar stairs which he had started to descend to force the surrender of the enemy. His heroic action resulted in the capture of 36 German soldiers and the seizure of the strongpoint.

2LT Wigle died of his wounds two days later and, on February 7, 1945, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Prior to enlisting, he was a concert violinist with the Kansas City Philharmonic.

LTC Benjamin F. Taylor and Taylor Field



Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin F. Taylor, 31 October 1935-17 February 1992, was a veteran of the Vietnam War and later commanded the 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment. He was a highly respected scholar, leader, and Infantryman noted for developing a system of training Infantry Soldier tasks in a field environment that was used for many years by both the Federal Officer Candidate School and Infantry Basic Officer Leaders Course, similar to the Warrior Task Battle Drill training lanes that Infantry BOLC and Officer Candidate School use today. LTC Taylor passed away unexpectedly in 1992 at the age of 56 due to cancer. Our sister battalion 2-11 Infantry, the previous occupants of the 3-11 Infantry footprint, named Taylor Field in his honor.

1LT Cecil H. Bolton and Bolton Obstacle Course



Medal of Honor Citation: As leader of the weapons platoon of Company E, 413th Infantry, on the night of 2 November 1944, he fought gallantly in a pitched battle which followed the crossing of the Mark River in Holland. When two machine guns pinned down his company, he tried to eliminate, with mortar fire, their grazing fire which was inflicting serious casualties and preventing the company's advance from an area rocked by artillery shelling. In the moonlight it was impossible for him to locate accurately the enemy's camouflaged positions; but he continued to direct fire until wounded severely in the legs and rendered unconscious by a German shell. When he recovered consciousness he instructed his unit and then crawled to the forward rifle platoon positions. Taking a two-man bazooka team on his voluntary mission, he advanced chest-deep in cold water along a canal toward one enemy machine gun. While the bazooka team covered him, he approached alone to within 15 yards of the hostile emplacement in a house. He charged the remaining distance and killed the two gunners with hand grenades. Returning to his men, he led them through intense fire over open ground to assault the second German machine gun. An enemy sniper who tried to block the way was killed, and the trio pressed on. When discovered by the machine-gun crew and subjected to direct fire, 1st Lt. Bolton killed one of the three gunners with carbine fire, and his two comrades shot the others. Continuing to disregard his wounds, he led the bazooka team toward an 88-mm artillery piece which was having telling effect on the American ranks, and approached once more through icy canal water until he could dimly make out the gun's silhouette. Under his fire direction, the two soldiers knocked out the enemy weapon with rockets. On the way back to his own lines he was again wounded. To prevent his men being longer subjected to deadly fire, he refused aid and ordered them back to safety, painfully crawling after them until he reached his lines, where he collapsed. First Lt. Bolton's heroic assaults in the face of vicious fire, his inspiring leadership, and continued aggressiveness even through suffering from serious wounds contributed in large measure to overcoming strong enemy resistance and made it possible for his battalion to reach its objective.

COL Bolton retired from the US Army in 1962.

CPT Stanley Arthur Blunt and Blunt Conference Room



Blunt Conference Room honors a leader from both the 11th Infantry Regiment and OCS.

Citation: Presented the Distinguished Service Cross to Captain (Infantry) Stanley A. Blunt, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, while serving with Company D, 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry, 1st Infantry Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized). Captain Blunt distinguished himself while leading his company during a search and clear operation through enemy controlled territory several kilometers south of the Demilitarized Zone in the northern area of I Corps Tactical Zone. On 11 November, his company was participating in a coordinated battalion attack on elements of the 27th North Vietnamese Army Regiment defending heavily fortified bunker positions. When his company's advance was halted by intense suppressive fire, Captain Blunt singlehandedly charged a heavily fortified machine gun emplacement and completely destroyed the position. In this same assault, he killed four other enemy soldiers at close range by hurling hand grenades into their positions. In the early morning hours of 13 November, in a continuation of the same operation, Captain Blunt infiltrated a seven-man patrol through some twelve hundred meters of closely defended enemy terrain under cover of darkness in order to reinforce and extract besieged friendly elements. He conducted this perilous mission without incident and undoubtedly saved the lives of the twenty-two trapped American soldiers. Captain Blunt's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Captain Stanley Arthur Blunt commissioned as an Infantry Officer upon graduation from Officer Candidate School class 1-66 at Fort Benning, Georgia on January 14, 1966. His first duty assignment was as a Ranger Instructor, Company D, United States Army Infantry School (3151), Ft. Benning, Georgia. His subsequent duty assignments were: Platoon Leader, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, United States Army Pacific Command (Republic of Vietnam); Platoon Leader, Company A, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, United States Army Pacific Command (Republic of Vietnam); Assistant S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 3rd Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Carson, Colorado; Regimental Staff Advisor, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam; Commanding Officer, Company D, 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Vietnam; S-2, Headquarters and Headquarters

Company, 1st Battalion, 11th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Vietnam; Instructor, Ranger Department, 20th Company, 2d Student Battalion, Fort Benning, Georgia; Advisor, 1st Regimental Assistance Command, United States Army Pacific Command (Republic of Vietnam).

From his obituary in 2019: He was medically discharged in 1975. In 1975, he left on a solo, around-the-world sailing adventure on the RuPiPaKi, endearingly named after dog Rusty (Ru), pet pidgeon Pidgie (Pi) and a loved one left behind (PaKi). The craft was a 25-foot, single-mast, Marieholm International Folk sailboat--no motor. His goal was to learn more about himself, other cultures and ethnicities and to view America as seen from around the world. He had more than a few harrowing moments: falling from the boat without a tether, barely making it to shore after being stung by sea anemones, days adrift on a windless sea, along with countless experiences and friendships formed upon landfalls. His extraordinary letters home are an archive to be treasured. Four years later on December 5, 1979, he returned to the U.S., passing under the Golden Gate Bridge and reportedly shouting "I LOVE this country!" Stan spent more than 20 years in Thailand before once again returning to the United States. While in Thailand, he was actively involved in the search for American POWs. In addition, he took up the cause of a Thai family whose money had mysteriously gone missing from several very powerful international banks. He eventually convinced a renowned Laotian humanitarian lawyer to take on the case pro bono and together they won a substantial settlement for the family. In 1990, Stan married Kunchalee in Thailand. Together, with their young daughter, Sonya, and Kunchalee's two sons, Panya and Pachaya, they moved to Aberdeen, Washington in 1993 and raised their children there.



OCS Courses

What is OCS?

Officer Candidate School is one of the Army's officer commissioning sources, along with the US Military Academy at West Point, the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), and direct commissioning by branches. In addition to the OCS course, OCS also provides the Army its branch immaterial Direct Commission Course (DCC). The Officer Candidate School is a scalable commissioning source, designed to meet national emergency while still providing a common formative experience for new officers. The OCS course, combined with Basic Combat Training, meets all Common Core Task List requirements set by the Center for Initial Military Training's BOLC section with exception of slightly reduced US military history.

What is DCC?

Direct commissioning is the US Army's oldest means of commissioning and numerous heroes including George Washington himself were direct commissioned. The Direct Commission Course compresses the BCT and OCS requirements into a six week course for officers newly commissioned directly by all branches with exception of Medical Service Corps and the Chaplain Corps.



Course Overviews

OCS Overview. Note the colors of ascot relate to phase: basic, intermediate, and senior.

Week 1: In-processing



Week 2: Leadership



Week 3: Leadership



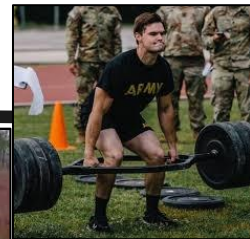
Week 4: Land Navigation



Week 5: Branching Fair



Week 6: Tactics



Week 7 & 8: SQD STX



Week 9: Branching



Week 10: History



Week 11: Out-process/ Staff Ride



Week 12: Graduation



OCS Course Map

DCC Overview

Week 1: Pick Up



Week 2: Academics



Week 3 & 4: Land navigation/ BRM



Week 5: STX



Week 6: Graduation



The OCS Alma Mater

The OCS Alma Mater, sung by Fort Benning OCS students almost since its founding, uses music adapted from H.S. Thompson's "Annie Lisle," composed in 1857. The original Alma Mater lyrics were written in 1942 by OC (later LTG (R)) Vernon A. Walters, after Cornell University's Alma Mater lyrics. The lyrics have evolved over time. "Follow me with pride" was originally "follow me and die," an Infantry OCS expression during World War II meant to teach infantry leaders that literally leading from the front at all times is extremely hazardous; leaders position themselves where they can best command and control their element. "The Army's pride and joy" was previously "Benning's pride and joy" and changed with the renaming of Fort Benning to Fort Moore. The original lyric was "Benning's school for boys."

The OCS Alma Mater

Song adapted from H.S. Thompson's "Annie Lisle," Composed 1857

Original lyrics written in 1942 by OC (later LTG (R)) Vernon A. Walters, after Cornell University's Alma Mater
This simple transcription for the 3-11 Infantry Handbook by LTC Wilford L. Garvin, lyrics from 2023

Andante Moderato

Far Ac-ross the Chattahoochee, to the Up-a-toi, - O C S our Al ma Ma ter

the Army's pride and joy. Forward ever, backward never, faithfully we strive to the ports of

embarcation fol low me with pride. When its time we are called to guard our country's might

we'll be there with our heads! held! high! in peace time and in fight Yearning ever, failing never,

to guard the mem-o-ry the call is clear we must meet! the! task! for freedom's! never! free!

rit.

Battalion Culture and Climate

OCS and DCC are also referred to as “BOLC-A” (Basic Officer Leader Course), the first part of a new officer’s military education. BOLC-A (which includes ROTC, DCC, OCS, and USMA) is then followed by BOLC-B, which is branch-specific and in multiple locations depending on the branch.

Because OCS is the first part of an officer’s military education, it is a physically and mentally demanding, challenging course. While cadre set the tone, students are most responsible for the overall experience they have in the courses. Some students arrive expecting a “gentlemen’s course” to include hotel rooms, routine passes, and simply an academic experience. Regardless of age or background, all future officers receive a common formative experience in their BOLC-As oriented around basic martial discipline, doctrinal foundations, fitness, and evaluation of leadership through the lens of light infantry tactics.

Officer candidates and DCC students will engage in rigorous training meant to create professional discomfort and stress to evaluate leadership potential and develop skills designed to help keep them and their Soldiers alive in combat. The cadre want every student to succeed, however the right to lead as an officer must be earned. Our nation’s sons and daughters deserve outstanding leadership.



Officer Candidates execute Field Training.

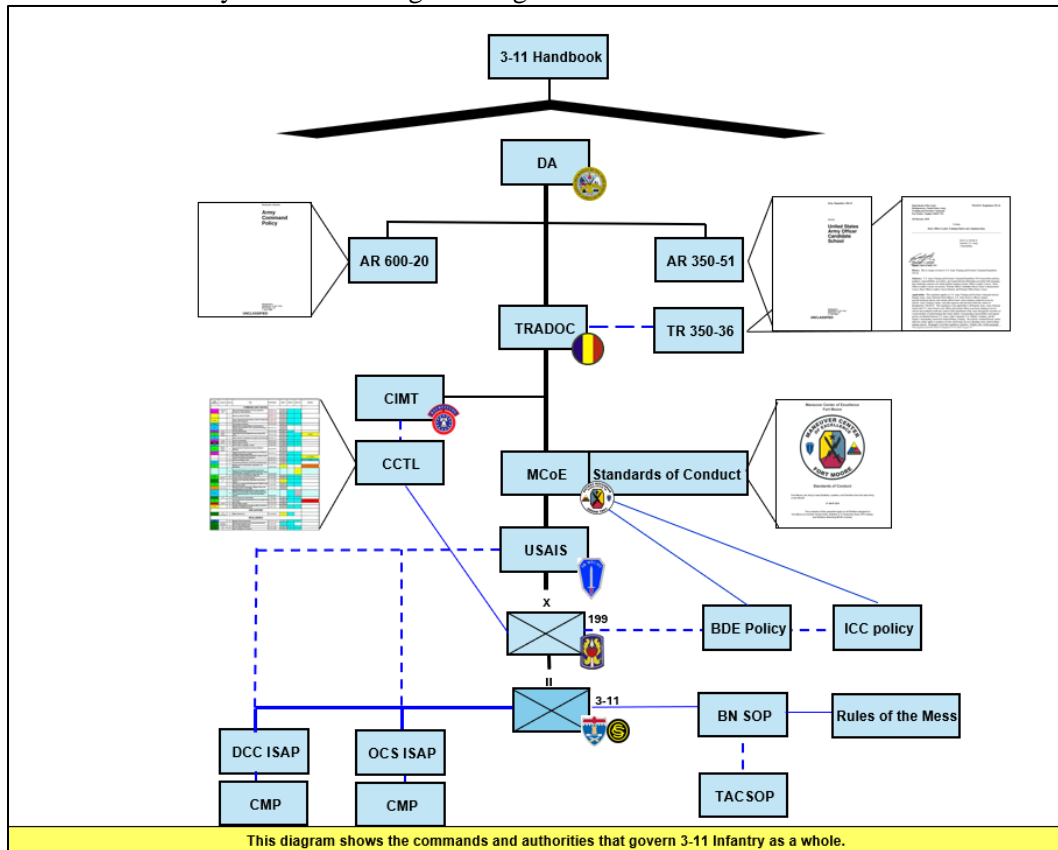
Governing Documents

Individual Student Assessment Plan (ISAP)

There is an ISAP for OCS and one for DCC. The ISAP outlines the standards and performance requirements for graduation and receipt of appointment orders in the U.S. Army. This document describes the assessment criteria for the entire OCS and DCC Programs of instruction. They apply to all Candidates assigned to or attending training at OCS. See the “Useful Links” section of this booklet for where these documents can be found and downloaded for reference.

Governing Document Link Diagram

There are many documents that govern OCS and outline rules and procedures. Below is illustrated the hierarchy of documents governing OCS.



Link Diagram of the OCS governing documents. Students and cadre alike must be familiar with the standards established in the OCS ISAPs and SOP

Role of the Battalion Commander / Commandant: Dual Hatted Authorities



AR 600-20 Authorities

- Command
- Good Order & Discipline
- Culture and Climate
- UCMJ (Cadre and Student)



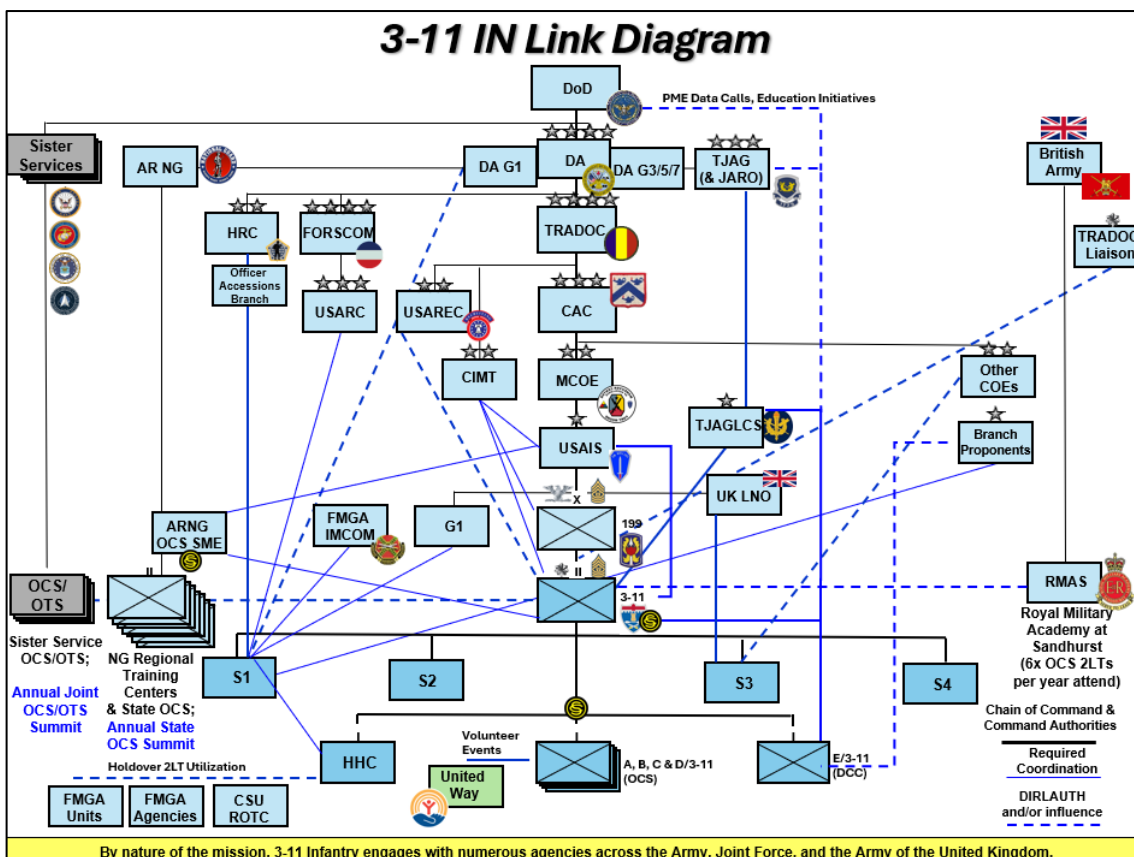
AR 350-51, TR 350-36, ISAP Authorities

- Operate courses
- Branch and Commission officers
- Recycle (OCS and DCC)
- Dismiss (OCS, DCC admin)

The commander of 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment is “dual hatted” as the Commandant of the US Army Federal Officer Candidate school. These “hats” carry separate and distinct authorities that apply to Soldiers organic to the unit, or assigned for training, versus authorities over student-Soldiers training in the school. Command authorities are the same as any battalion commander, and include UCMJ authority over enlisted Soldiers. UCMJ authority for officers, including DCC students, is withheld by the MCoE Commanding General. As Commandant, the commander has the authority to operate and administer most aspects of Federal OCS including branching active duty officer candidates, commissioning officers, recycling students in both courses, and dismissing officer candidates who resign or otherwise demonstrate lack potential. The OCS and DCC ISAPs explain the disciplinary authorities and procedures, including appellate rights, in greater detail. Note that as a BOLC-A commissioning source, the OCS ISAPs do not nest directly with AR 350-1, AR 15-6, etc. TR 350-6 does not apply.

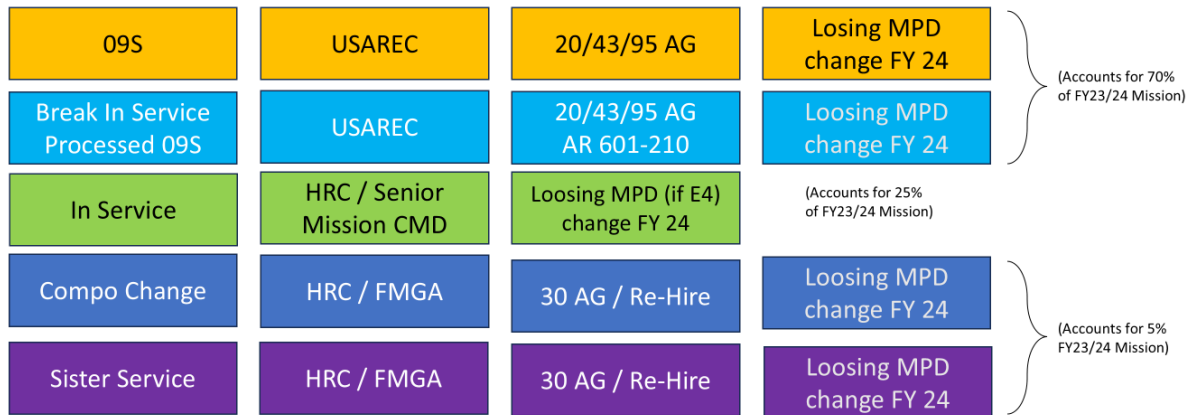
OCS Linkages: MCoE and Beyond

Our battalion is one of the most unique in the US Army. As OCS is one of the Army's BOLC-A's commissioning sources, we have direct relationships that extend beyond the 199th Infantry Brigade and even MCoE. The below diagram provides an overview of these relationships both in and beyond the direct chain of command.



Accessions

OCS accepts candidates from very diverse backgrounds: in-service, prior service, sister service, and all components. Each category of candidates has a slightly different process in terms of accessions gates for incoming Officer Candidates. The graphic below depicts the different accession gates for candidates with an 09S background (college option), USAREC (US Army Recruiting), or AG (Army Guard).



- Note: loosing MPD now BLDG 35 through Special Promotion Div at HRC (FY24)
- Note: Only NG uses Legacy 4187 through Finance

There are different accessions gates for incoming Officer Candidates and DCC students based on their diverse backgrounds.

The Alumni Association

The 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment has a very strong relationship with The United States Army Officer Candidate Schools Alumni Association (TUSAOCSSAA). In addition to their support for the Memorial Walk, the OCS Hall of Fame, and the Wigle Hall OCS Historical Center, the Association links corporate sponsors to every OCS class, offsetting student costs for social events and supporting honors at graduation. The Association also executes an annual reunion in Columbus and Fort Benning, Georgia that our battalion supports. OCS students should consider maintaining a membership in the Alumni association as part of their long term camaraderie and networking, as well as to support the program. Finally, the Association serves as a means to link up current students with veterans and mentors. The Association includes active and recently retired officers who are eager to invest their time and wisdom to help the next generation.



OCS Reunion, 2024



Former Sen. Dole meets retired Colonels John Ionoff, President (left) and Frank Harman, at the Memorial Walk



Special Programs

Army National Guard (ARNG) Partnership

Our battalion assists the US Army National Guard administer the OCS program of instruction across seven regional training centers. As the unit that operates Federal OCS, National Guard battalions often ask our advice of how to best deliver instruction and how to implement changes in the courseware. The battalion commander and command sergeant major annually travel to a National Guard OCS symposium to share best practices.

The Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst

Every year, OCS sends a small number of graduates to the United Kingdom to attend Sandhurst's Regular Intake Commissioning Course. This is the program that trains British cadets to become commissioned officers in Britain's active duty army. The course includes students from numerous other countries, who are sent to gain valuable training. The academic year is 44 weeks over three semesters.

OCS Candidates who wish to go must participate in a rigorous, extremely competitive application process to be selected for the program.



Two OCS graduates pose with the American flag while training at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, England.

Joint OCS Collaboration

The Federal OCS collaborates with sister service Officer Training Schools frequently to share best practices and common trends. This collaboration culminates with the annual Joint OCS / OTS Summit, which is hosted on a rotational basis. Leaders from the Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps, and the Army National Guard meet to discuss joint readiness, multi-domain operations, and the Officers that each branch commissions. The annual collaboration provides a unique opportunity for the sister services to improve their systems and processes by learning from each other. Improvements in student administration and discipline across all courses are a significant output of this relationship. The joint summit hopes to also soon add Space Force OCS to the attendees as they establish their OCS, which is to be modeled after US Army Federal OCS.



The 2024 Joint OCS/ OTS Summit was hosted by the Federal OCS.

Comprehensive Services

Cadre conduct comprehensive services during cycle breaks, where they conduct maintenance of all equipment and facilities, Army mandatory training, and personal readiness requirements such as MEDPROS. Companies conduct comprehensive services approximately every six months to ensure readiness to execute training cycles with the minimum of training distractions.

Holdover Opportunities

One experience OCS cannot replicate is the opportunity for Candidates to role-play as battalion staff officers, as most ROTC cadets will be able to do during their BOLC-A journey. However, 3-11 Infantry tries to allow holdover 2LTs as much developmental opportunity as possible before they proceed to BOLC-B. These opportunities include attending schools, serving as a staff officer or company executive officer in 3-11 Infantry, working for the Garrison HQ, NCO Academy, National Infantry Museum, MP detachment, or the CSU ROTC program. Some 2LTs are also able to support hometown recruiting programs. Holdover 2LTs have even completed the Ranger course before BOLC-B!

Mess Calls

Due to the cyclical nature of the courses administered at the company level, 3-11 Infantry cannot often bring together all personnel at once. However, the unit periodically conducts cadre calls during an early end to the duty day to celebrate milestones such as graduations. In particular, the battalion conducts quarterly Commander's Cup competitions followed by Mess Calls to award the cup, callsigns, and the not-so-coveted "Dirty Ascot" award!

Soldier and Family Readiness Group Activities

The Battalion's SFRG ensures the dissemination of information to Families. This activity primarily focuses on permanent party Families as almost all OCS students are not stationed at Fort Benning and the courses are unaccompanied. The battalion does use social media to broadcast major class events such as the Welcome Panel, branching ceremonies, and graduation. The chaplain and SFRG assist in hosting an annual holiday party before winter block leave.

Fort Benning, Georgia



The MCoE Headquarters, Building 4, is a main building on Fort Benning, GA.

Welcome

Welcome to Fort Benning! Fort Benning, named after CPL Fred Benning, a Distinguished Service Cross recipient from the first World War, is one of the Army's biggest installations.

Fort Benning, Columbus, GA, and Phenix City, AL, are known as the "Tri-Community." Fort Benning straddles the Georgia and Alabama border. The Chattahoochee River divides Alabama and Georgia and significantly influences the Fort Benning lifestyle. Local and military families alike enjoying white water rafting, kayaking, and zip lining over the river. Due to Fort Benning's Central-Georgia location, the Panhandle region of Florida and Jacksonville, Florida, are popular destinations because of the military affiliated installations in the region and as vacation venues.

Fort Benning Access & Visitor Center

Escorted Access/Trusted Traveler Program

This program allows a uniformed Service member or government employee with a valid DOD CAC, a military retiree (with a valid DOD ID credential), or an adult dependent 18 years or older (with a valid DOD ID credential) to present their ID credential for access to the installation while simultaneously vouching for any vehicle occupants during authorized Trusted Traveler hours. Fort Benning Trusted Traveler hours are 0500 (5 am) to 2200 (10 pm). Trusted Travelers cannot vouch for persons with foreign passports or ID cards.

Persons identified as Trusted Travelers are responsible for the actions of all occupants for whom they sponsor and must be physically with them while on the installation.

Visitor Center Pass Request Information

All personnel who are requesting unescorted access to Fort Benning and not in possession of a DOD ID card will undergo a National Crime Information Center Interstate Identification Index (NCIC-III) background check. This check involves verifying the individual's identity and checking their criminal history against the Army Fitness Adjudication Standards. Be aware that all individuals 18 years and older in the vehicle are required to have a background

check and pass before being allowed unescorted access to the installation.

Pass Request at Visitor Control Centers: To request an access pass to post, you can go to one of two Visitor Control Centers.

1. The Lindsey Creek Visitor Control Center (VCC) is open 24 hours a day to include holidays.
2. The Contractor Visitor Control Center (CVCC) is located on 8th Division Road in Harmony Church and is open Monday to Friday 6 am to 2 pm. The CVCC is closed nights, weekends and holidays.

If you go to one of the Visitor Control Centers, the process will take approximately 5-8 minutes per person, so allow for extra time when making travel plans.

Pass Request Pre-Registration (still must go to visitor center but may save time)

1. Visit: https://pass.aie.army.mil/steps/branch_selection
2. Complete all pre-registration requirements on the secure site, being sure to select "Reason for Visit" This process takes less than two minutes. If other installations are shown, ensure you select the correct installation.
3. Applicants receive an SMS (text message) within minutes (and no later than 24 hours later) with notification on whether the request for a Fort Benning Pass is approved.
4. Those with approved passes will be able to pick up their pass at the Lindsey Creek Visitor Control Center kiosk (open 24 hours) or the Contractor Visitor Control Center kiosk located on 8th Division Road at Harmony Church (open Monday to Friday 6 am to 2 pm). You will need the DL/ID that you used during pre-registration. Pass will not be available for pick up until the start date requested. Some Special Events may direct you to a specific gate for initial entry to the post.

Gate Hours

There are multiple gates to get one and off Fort Benning. Each gate has different hours of operation. Below are the hours of operation, which can also be found at:

<https://home.army.mil/benning/About/gates-visitors>.

Gate Name	Hours of Operation
ACP 1: Camp Merrill	Dahlongega, Georgia. Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
ACP 2: Legacy Way	6 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week.
ACP 3: I-185 Lindsey Creek Parkway	Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Visitor Control Center	Lindsey Creek Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
ACP 5A: Custer Road	Access from Route 27 into Sand Hill and Patton Village. Open 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Closed weekends, federal holidays.
ACP 7: 8th Division/Harmony Church	Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
ACP 7T: 8th Division/ Harmony Church Truck Stop	Open 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. seven days a week.
ACP 8: Childers, Eddy Bridge	Access leading to Lawson Army Airfield. Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
ACP 9 Buena Vista Rd.	Outgoing Only 24/7

Operation Slow Down

Be on the lookout for reduced speed limit signs in various locations around Fort Benning to include off the Main Post area. “Operation Slow Down,” also on speed limit signs as “O.S.D.,” reduces speed limits to 15 miles per hour during common PT times in many locations.

Regardless of time, the post speed limit is always 10 miles per hour when passing troops. Poor driving is one of the greatest risks we face on this installation.

In processing Fort Benning

Permanent Party/ Cadre

New Soldiers/Service Members in transit to Fort Benning, Georgia on Permanent Party PCS orders report to the Installation Replacement Operations Center in Ridgway Hall (BLDG 35), Room 239 located on the second floor, during duty hours (0600-1600 M-F excluding weekends, holidays, and training holidays) for accountability purposes and to start in-processing the installation.

After duty hours, Soldiers/Service Members must report to the post Staff Duty NCOIC or OIC at McGinnis-Wickam Hall, 1 Karker Street, BLDG. 4. Soldiers/Service Members SHOULD NOT report to their units prior to signing into the Installation Replacement Operations Center unless for barracks housing for single Soldiers.

Soldiers/Service Members reporting for in-processing must have a copy of your PCS Orders assigning them to Fort Benning.

If you have any questions prior to reporting, please call during normal duty hours. 706-545-4577 or 706-545-5686 or 706-545-5687.

Officer Candidates

Officer Candidates should report directly to Building 76 upon arrival to Fort Benning, GA to begin in-processing the unit.

****It is recommended to download the “GuideOn” App to assist in locating buildings on Fort Benning.****



Fort Benning Resources

	FITNESS <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Fitness Centers•Swimming•Youth Sports•Sports, Fitness, & Races
	FAMILY <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Child Care Centers•Parent & Outreach Services•Child & Youth Services•School Support
	FUN <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Bingo•Bowling Centers•Parks, Ponds, & Trails•Golf Course

Fort Benning offers a multitude of resources to Soldiers and Families. Resources include, but are not limited to: Army Community Services, Family Advocacy Program, Relocation Readiness Program, Child and Youth Services, Finance Services, Health & Fitness, and Veterinary Services.

No matter what your situation or hobbies, Fort Benning MWR is sure to have helpful and fun activities for you! For more information about the resources available, visit: <https://benning.armymwr.com>.

The 3-11 Infantry and OCS Footprint

Note: Map is oriented North.



The 3-11 Infantry and OCS Footprint viewed from north-west

Also note Fort Benning's iconic Airborne School Towers



The Footprint

Our battalion is proud to maintain the historic footprint built by the 24th Infantry Regiment. The 24th was a “Buffalo Soldier” Regiment of African American Soldiers let by white officers during the era of segregation in the American south. The Regiment built their barracks and many of the original permanent construction buildings on Fort Benning in the 1930s. The location of the Regiment’s footprint on the extreme northwest corner of main-post Fort Benning, and far away from the officer quarters, was not an accident. Nett Hall served as both the movie theater and chapel for the regiment, and Wigle Hall served as their Post Exchange. A historical marker between Nett Hall and the Barracks commemorates their service and allows us to reflect on how far our Army and our nation has come. Maintaining this footprint is part of how we honor the legacy of the Soldiers of the 24th Regiment.



This does also mean that the student barracks are now nearing a century old. All personnel must contribute to maintaining these facilities. Personnel should promptly report issues for submission of work orders and ensure no flushing of objects not intended for the sewage system. The water in the 3-11 infantry footprint is safe to drink. In 2021 MCoE detected elevated lead levels in the water of one section of the adjacent NCO academy and the commanding general directed installation of water filters across all historic barracks until the next round of major renovations remove any remaining 1930s construction copper pipes that were assembled with lead solder.

The OCS Memorial Walk is another proud landmark on the footprint. Senior phase students have the honor of maintaining the Memorial Walk, and tradition holds that senior phase students will not be authorized off-post day passes unless the battalion Command Sergeant Major is satisfied that the Walk is to standard, to include the polishing of the Cannon which has been tradition since 1965.



Student Frequently Asked Questions

- Are pay issues common?

There are often issues with OCs' pay, due to the rapid change of their statuses and lag time within the finance office and HRC. Our cadre will assist and keep students and families informed of the issues and steps being taken to resolve pay issues. These issues are known up to the four star level and while we work diligently with students throughout the six and twelve week courses, unfortunately some issues are often still being worked at graduation.

- How do I submit an application?

OCS selection boards are conducted at HRC or US Army Recruiting Command.

<https://www.hrc.army.mil/Officer/Officer%20Candidate%20School>

Applications for direct commissioning are submitted through the prospective branch.

- Will TA-50 be provided in school?

In-service students should arrive with the complete packing list, however items not issued on the clothing record may be issued. By CIF. College option candidates and DCC students receive TA-50 issued here from the Central Issue Facility (CIF). Please see the official OCS website for the latest packing list.

- Are Candidates authorized to bring cell phones?

Candidates are authorized to have cellular phones while at OCS. Use of phones is limited by the training schedule and to certain locations.

- Are Candidates authorized POVs (Privately Owned Vehicles)?

It depends on the student's status and orders. Candidates are not authorized to retrieve privately owned vehicles during the course or return from holiday block leave with POVs if they were not already authorized them. POVs are off-limits unless specifically granted permission such as for maintenance, attending religious services, or during approved passes. Student parking is available near the intersection of Wold Ave and Dilboy St.

- Does the barracks have internet access?

BOINGO WIFI Company has a program by which wireless internet can be purchased by the hour/day/month. Students are responsible for all costs. Personal wifi internet devices are also authorized.

- What address can I use to send packages and letters to OCS candidate?

(CANDIDATE'S NAME)

3-11TH INFANTRY

6510 MCVEIGH AVE, BLDG 76

(COMPANY, IF KNOWN)

FORT BENNING, GA 31905

- What holidays are observed during OCS?

Candidates will be informed at the beginning of the course which holidays will be observed during their time at OCS. Infantry School courses observe Federal holidays, however as a BOLC-A students do not receive four day passes, overnight post passes, etc. Off post day passes for students are awarded only during senior phase.

- What uniform is used for OCS?

Your daily duty uniform consists of the Operational Camouflage Pattern Army Combat Uniform (OCP-ACUs) and ascot w/ OCS embroidered emblem. Candidates should wear ASUs for the graduation formal and AGSUs for graduation, however these uniforms are interchangeable during the transition period. DCC socials and OCS branch socials are conducted in civilian business casual. The Army Physical Fitness Uniform (APFU) w/ yellow reflective belt will be worn during physical training. The FRACUs (Fire Resistant Army Combat Uniform) and the Army Combat Shirt are not authorized in OCS.

- What are the physical fitness requirements for OCS?

For the OCS course, you must be able to take and pass the Army Fitness Test (AFT), Bolton Obstacle Course, a 6-, 9-, and 12-mile foot march, and a timed 4 mile run. For DCC, students must pass a four and six mile footmarch and conduct the AFT.

- Do you get any time off during OCS?

Yes, but initially you are in an immersion environment and you will not be allowed to leave the Battalion Area. As the candidates/students advance through the course the Company Commander may grant additional privileges.

- How long is OCS (BOLC A) and follow up classes?

OCS (BOLC A) is 12 weeks and is followed by your branch specific BOLC B (6-24 weeks, depending on the branch), then based on what unit you are going to you can receive additional schooling (e.g. Airborne, Stryker Leader Course, etc.) before arriving at your first unit.

- Is branching done during OCS?

Branching is done during OCS for all active-duty personnel. National Guard and Reserve Personnel will receive their branch from their state or unit respectively. Branches are allocated by HRC and assigned by the OCS Commandant based on student preferences, their performance in their class, and any other relevant factors. In-service active duty students conduct Talent Based Branching as with ROTC and West Point cadets. In the future, all active duty students will conduct Talent Based Branching before arriving to OCS. Further details about branching are found in the OCS SOP.

- Is there any additional information on Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) while attending OCS?

See information below:

SERVICE MEMBER SINGLE NO DEPENDENTS

If service member is single and has no dependents, service member will not receive BAH while attending OCS.

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO SERVICE MEMBER (NO CHILDREN)

If service member is married to another service member and has no dependents the service member who is attending OCS will not receive BAH while attending OCS.

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO SERVICE MEMBER AND BOTH ARE ATTENDING OCS

If service member is married to another service member and both are attending OCS at the same time they will not receive BAH while attending OCS.

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO SERVICE MEMBER (WITH CHILDREN)

If service member is drawing BAH w/dependent, service member will receive BAH w/dependents while attending OCS. Service member may need additional information for application purposes.

***If service member is drawing BAH w/o dependent your BAH will stop while attending OCS.*

SERVICE MEMBER MARRIED TO A CIVILIAN

If service member is drawing BAH w/dependent, service member will receive BAH w/dependents while attending OCS. Service member may need additional information for application purposes.

SERVICE MEMBER SINGLE (NOT MARRIED / DIVORCED) WITH KIDS

If service member is drawing BAH w/dependent, service member will receive BAH w/dependents while attending OCS. Service member may need additional information for application purposes.

SERVICE MEMBER PAYING CHILD SUPPORT

If you are paying child support you are authorized BAH DIFF. Service member may need additional information for application purposes.

- What Uniform should I wear when reporting to OCS for class?
OCP-ACU.

- Can I “walk-on” to an OCS or DCC class early?
No.

- Do we receive a DA 1059 (Service School Academic Evaluation Report) for OCS?
No.

- Can I take a pass between Basic Training and starting OCS?
That is dependent upon what your orders say, and your basic training unit. You must sign into 3-11 Infantry and OCS according to what your orders say. Once you sign into the battalion you will not be put on pass and will immediately begin prepping for the upcoming class. If your basic training unit allows you to go on pass, that is something that needs to be worked between the candidate and their basic training unit.

- I am graduating later than scheduled from present training and will be unable to report for my scheduled OCS class. Will I be moved to the next OCS class?
If the Soldier is going to be late to OCS, they need to contact 502-613-6352, to reschedule for the next available OCS class. Otherwise, the Soldier will be considered a "No Show" for the originally scheduled class.

- Are there any formal gatherings prior to the graduation ceremony where family of the students may attend?
No, there are no formal gatherings or “family day” prior to the graduation ceremony. Stay attuned to the Company's Facebook page for information on the graduation ceremony. However, families may be invited to graduation formal.

Top Ten Pieces of Advice for Student Success

1. Your cadre want you to succeed, however you have to earn your success.
2. Perfection is not the standard. You will make mistakes. Be humble when peers or cadre are trying to help you get better.
3. Character is the most basic pre-requisite for effective leadership. Nothing will cause the Commandant to lose trust in your potential faster than loss of trust in your character.
4. The honor code is non-negotiable. Lying, cheating, stealing, or tolerating those who do cause your character to immediately fall into grave doubt.
5. Officers must be fit. Due to the short courses and time spent in the field, you will not get in better shape while you are in 3-11 Infantry unless you put additional effort into it.
6. Fitness goes beyond PT test score. Nutrition/hydration (especially in the Georgia summer!), sleep, recovery, and your resilience all matter. If you are hurt, get medical help; don't conceal injuries.
7. Everyone is at where they are at in life. Raise each other up. Help your buddies who don't know how to climb a rope or if English is their second language.
8. In-service and prior service "mustangs" are either a boon or a hindrance: Officer Candidates and DCC students have the same status regardless of paygrade. Everyone is meant to be here.
9. Infantry training is inherent to BOLC-A. You would be doing the same training if you went to Green to Gold. Make the most of it; analogue land navigation and Troop Leading Procedures will help keep you alive in combat.
10. The Army will have its ups and downs. Have fun while you can. The most important lessons you learn in OCS often are about people, not from the classes themselves.

Congratulations on your selection to attend OCS with the 3^d Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment!

Top Ten Pieces of Advice for Cadre Success

1. We want students to succeed. Their success is our success. They are our mission.
2. Success isn't simply graduating; success is them getting to BOLC-B on the same level as their ROTC and West Point peers and ultimately being a great platoon leader / staff officer.
3. As such, tough love is our job. Uphold the standard. However, our students are not privates; they are motivated and you shouldn't have to "be the bad guy."
4. If you are doing the right thing, don't worry about complaints. The Commander / Commandant and Command Sergeant Major have the backs of cadre when they rightly have to correct a student.
5. Most issues we have are student-on-student.
6. The students are judging you constantly: look and act as good as you are at all times. Simple things like a faded uniform, vaping or drinking energy drinks in front of students, etc. while authorized reduce your credibility.
7. Maintain a professional distance with the students and don't do things for them they need to do for themselves.
8. You need to know the ISAP better than the students and comply with its standards: they will call you on it if you don't.
9. Good Soldiers make good decisions both on and off duty. You need to stay fit regardless of cycle breaks. Be aware of the Georgia "Nighthawks" and other such pitfalls. If you're going through something in your life, let someone know.
10. This is a fun job. Enjoy it and be sure to invest in yourself while you're here so you're ready for your next assignment or chapter in life.

Congratulations on your selection to serve in the 3rd Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment! Our mission is strategically important, tremendously rewarding, and one of the gems of Fort Benning!

Glossary

Glossary

A

AAR (After Action Review): A review conducted after an event to analyze what happened, what went well, and what can be improved.

ACU (Army Combat Uniform): The standard uniform worn by soldiers in the U.S. Army.

ADP (Army Doctrine Publication): Publications that provide doctrinal guidance for the Army.

AO (Area of Operations): A designated geographical area where military operations are conducted.

Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES): Ranges from gas station to department store size shops where soldiers can buy common items.

B

BOLC (Basic Officer Leadership Course): Training that follows OCS and provides the skills needed for an officer's specialty.

BOLC-A: Basic Officer Leader Course-Accessions.

BOLC-B: Basic Officer Leader Course-Branch. Branch specific officer training following commissioning.

Battalion: A military unit typically consisting of 300-1,000 soldiers, commanded by a lieutenant colonel.

Battalion Commander: The officer in charge of a battalion.

Board: A panel of officers that evaluates candidates for commissioning and assignments.

Branch: The specific career field or specialty within the Army, such as Infantry or Finance.

C

CO (Commanding Officer): The officer in charge of a unit.

COC (Chain of Command): The line of authority and responsibility along which orders are passed in an organization.

Company: A military unit consisting of 100 to 200 soldiers, commanded by a captain.

COMPO (Component): Refers to the different components of the Army, such as Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve.

CPT (Captain): A commissioned officer rank above first lieutenant and below major.

Counseling: A process used by instructors to provide feedback and guidance to candidates on their performance.

D

Dining Facility (DFAC): Location where meals are available for soldiers.

Direct Commission: A process allowing civilians with specialized skills and education to commission directly into the Army as high as the rank of Colonel.

DCC: Direct Commission Course

Doctrine: The body of thought on how Army forces should operate.

Drill: The practice of movement and formations for military purposes.

Drill Sergeant: An NCO who trains and mentors recruits during basic training.

Duty Assignment: The specific role or position a soldier is assigned to.

F

Field Training Exercise (FTX): Practical exercises conducted in a field environment to simulate

real-world scenarios.

First Lieutenant (1LT): A junior officer rank above second lieutenant and below captain.

G

Garrison: A military post or base.

General Orders: Standing orders given to all members of the Army, including those pertaining to conduct and duties.

Grade: The rank or position of a military officer.

Guidon: A small flag or banner that represents a unit or organization.

H

Headquarters (HQ): The main administrative center of a unit or command.

HOOAH: A motivational battle cry used in the Army to express enthusiasm or agreement.

HRC (Human Resources Command): The agency responsible for personnel management in the Army.

I

Infantry: The branch of the Army that engages in ground combat.

Initial Entry Training (IET): The first phase of training for new soldiers, including Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training.

In-Processing: The initial administrative and logistical procedures candidates go through upon arrival at OCS.

Instructor: A person who teaches or trains candidates in various aspects of military skills and knowledge.

Intelligence: Information about enemy forces and terrain that is used to make strategic decisions.

Individual Student Assessment Plan (ISAP): Document that outlines the standards and performance requirements for graduation from OCS.

J

Judge Advocate General (JAG): The legal branch of the Army that provides legal services and representation.

Jump School: Training for airborne operations and parachute jumps.

Junior Officer: An officer in the early stages of their career, such as Second Lieutenant or First Lieutenant.

L

LDR (Leadership Development Review): A process for assessing and developing leadership skills in candidates

Leader's Reaction Course (LRC): A training course at Fort Benning conducted by OCs that focus on team-based problem solving.

Lieutenant Colonel (LTC): A senior field officer rank, typically commanding a battalion.

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M

Medal: An award given for achievement or valor, such as the Bronze Star or Silver Star Mission

Essential Task List (METL): A list of tasks that a unit must be able to perform to accomplish its mission.

Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): The specific job or role a soldier is trained for and performs in the Army.

Military Police (MP): Soldiers responsible for enforcing laws and regulations on military installations.

N

National Guard: A reserve component of the Army that can be called upon for state or federal missions.

NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer): A senior enlisted member responsible for leading and training soldiers.

NCOER (Non-Commissioned Officer Evaluation Report): A report that evaluates the performance and potential of non-commissioned officers.

O

OCS (Officer Candidate School): A training program for prospective officers to develop leadership and military skills.

OER (Officer Evaluation Report): A report that evaluates the performance and potential of officers.

Officer: A member of the military with a commission to lead and make decisions, including ranks such as Second Lieutenant and Colonel.

Officer Candidate (OC): A student at OCS pursuing a commission in the United States Army.

Oath of Office - The formal pledge taken by newly commissioned officers to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Operations Order (OPORD): A detailed plan for carrying out military operations.

P

Permanent Change of Station (PCS): The transfer of a soldier to a new duty station under orders.

Physical Training (PT): Exercises and activities designed to maintain and improve physical fitness.

Platoon: A military unit typically consisting of 16-44 soldiers, led by a lieutenant.

Policy: Official guidelines and regulations governing Army operations and conduct.

Q

Qualification: The process of demonstrating competency in specific skills or tasks, such as marksmanship.

Quarterly: Referring to events or reports that occur every three months.

Quartermaster: A branch of the Army responsible for supply and logistics.

R

Rank: The level of authority and responsibility held by a soldier or officer.

Recruit: An individual undergoing initial training to become a soldier.

ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps): A college program that trains students to become Army officers.

S

Situational Training Exercises (STX): Training vignettes and practice to develop Soldiers, usually in Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills.

SOP (Standard Operating Procedure): A set of standardized instructions for performing tasks or operations.

Squad: A small military unit, typically consisting of 9-13 soldiers, led by a sergeant.

Squad STX: A two-week situational training exercise at OCS that focuses on squad level leadership tactics.

Staff: Officers and personnel who assist in planning and executing operations within a unit.

Strategic: Referring to long-term planning and objectives in military operations.

Support: Activities and services provided to assist in the execution of military operations.

T

Tactical: Relating to short-term actions and maneuvers during combat operations.

Tactics: The techniques and methods used to achieve military objectives in combat.

Task Force: A temporary unit formed for a specific mission or operation.

TBB: Talent Based Branching.

Temporary Duty (TDY): A temporary assignment to a location that is not a soldier's permanent duty location.

Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC): This is the major command responsible for overseeing all Army training. OCS falls under TRADOC.

Y

Year Group: A classification of officers based on the year they were commissioned.

U

USAREC (United States Army Recruiting Command): The command responsible for recruiting new soldiers.

V

VA (Veterans Affairs): The government department that provides support and services to veterans.

W

Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills (WTBD): Basic skills required by all soldiers to be combat effective.

Additional Resources

Before Arrival

OCS at GoArmy: <https://www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs/find-your-path/army-officers/ocs>

Fort Benning page: <https://www.benning.army.mil/>

Official OCS page: <https://www.benning.army.mil/Infantry/199th/OCS/>

Official DCC page: <https://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/199th/DCC/>

Fort Benning MWR: <https://benning.armymwr.com/>

OCS Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/USArmyOCS/>

GuideOn App: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/guideon-military/id904516921>

Visitor Pass Pre-Registration: https://pass.aie.army.mil/steps/branch_selection

Visitor/ Gate Information: <https://home.army.mil/benning/About/gates-visitors>

During OCS/ Family & Cadre

Fort Benning Army Community Service (ACS): <https://benning.armymwr.com/programs/army-community-services>

Martin Army Community hospital: <https://martin.tricare.mil/>

After Graduation

OCS Alumni Association: <https://ocsalumni.org/>

OCS Yearbook Archive: <https://www.benning.army.mil/Library/OCS/index.html>



Standards! No Compromise!