

The Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame

Colonel Ralph O. Meister, Artillery OCS Class 60-43 meets the criteria for induction into the Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. He graduated from OCS on April 15, 1943 and was promoted to Colonel (0-6) on October 1, 1965.

In keeping with the original intent of the Fort Sill Artillery OCS Hall of Fame, the goal is to honor every graduate who attained the rank of Colonel (0-6) or above. On January 5, 1968, OCS Commandant Colonel Marlin Camp wrote *"The west room of the Lanyard Lounge (Building 3031) will be the Hall of Fame and now contains pictures of graduates who have attained the rank of full colonel and above, and graduates who have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross or Medal of Honor. I now consider this the appropriate time to announce to the public, through Army news media, the establishment of this Hall of Fame to commence a concentrated effort for additional nominees."*

During December 1968 Army Times included the following: *"Fort Sill officials say that many of the school's distinguished alumni may be missing from the Hall's roster because class lists from the school's early days are incomplete and because the Hall was established too recently for an extensive search to have been completed yet. The school is seeking assistance from OCS alumni, in tracking down all eligible candidates for the Hall."*

Inclusion in the Hall of Fame reflects favorably on the individual graduate and the Artillery Officer Candidate School as an institution. Citizen soldiers who answered the call during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam are the legacy of Artillery OCS. An OCS graduate attaining the rank of full colonel is a significant accomplishment, and unfortunately many who rose to that level in the 1960s and 1970s were never recognized.

National Guard Assigns Arcadian to New Post

Major General Charles A. Olt, Jr., Commanding General, 40th Armored Division, California Army National Guard, announces the assignment of Col. Ralph O. Meister to Commanding Officer of the division artillery. The 40th Division is the largest ready reserve organization in the West.

Col. Meister is a fulltime technician with the National Guard. He and his family live at 3019 Hodges Ave., Arcadia.

He enlisted in the Utah National Guard in 1939 and entered active duty in 1942 in an enlisted status until successful completion of the field artillery officer candidate school, Fort Sill, Okla., in 1943.

During World War II, Col. Meister served in the Aleutian Islands, participating in the Attu and Kiska campaigns. He also served in the European Theater of Operations in France and Germany. Following his release from active duty, he joined the 40th in 1947.

Following duty during the Korean Conflict, Col. Meister was promoted to Lt. Col. rank

in January, 1957. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas; the Artillery and Guided Missile School, Ft. Sill, Okla.; and the Air Ground Operations School, Ft. Bragg, N.C. He was awarded the Medal of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service in 1965.

U.S., Select Military Registers, 1862-1985																
National Guard - 1976																
NAME	UNIT	COMP	FA	CA	28	6	21	1	10	65	17	12	42	2	6	5A
MEISTER RALPH O		COL	FA	CA	28	6	21	1	10	65	17	12	42	2	6	5A
MEISTER ROY N JR		CM3		KS	11	1	26	1	11	76	6	7	66	6	6	08