

Colonel Owen W. Owens (Class 25-42)

Colonel Owens was enlisted in the National Guard from February 4, 1935 to April 21, 1935. He then enlisted for active duty training and rose to the rank of First Sergeant before entering the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma where he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon graduation on August 11, 1942.

He took a year of extensive Chinese language training and was stationed in China for almost three years. He returned to Utah and completed his training for a BS degree in communications at Utah State Agricultural College in 1947. After graduating he was sent to China for four years as Military Advisor to Chiang Kai-shek but was sent back to the United States three months after the Communist took over.

Colonel Owens was promoted to Major on May 15, 1950, completed Command and General Staff College in 1953 and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on March 26, 1956. He spent two years at the Pentagon, followed by two years at the American Embassy in London and then commanded 1st Battalion, 20th Artillery at Fort Lewis, Washington until Aug 1, 1957. His next assignment was Assistant Executive Officer of the 4th Division Artillery at Fort Lewis.

He was promoted to Colonel on August 4, 1963 and later served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence in the South Asia Area Command and Chief of the Far East Division of the Pentagon. His last duty assignment was Professor of Military Science and Commandant of the ROTC program at Utah State University from 1966 to 1968. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit and the Army Commendation Medal.