

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH FOR THE FIELD ARTILLERY  
OCS HALL OF FAME  
HEADQUARTERS  
1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION, 78<sup>TH</sup> FIELD ARTILLERY  
FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503

3 April 1998

NAME: **Raymond Jankowski**  
HOME PHONE: n/a  
WORK PHONE: n/a  
(DSN): none  
E-MAIL:  
ADDRESS:

Highest Rank Held: **Captain**  
Date of Rank: n/a  
Date of Birth: **14 December 1941**

OCS CLASS # **3-65** DATE GRADUATED/COMMISSIONED: **16 Mar 65 (Distinguished Military Graduate)**

PRESENT OCCUPATION: **owner of a property management company**

ADDRESS:

BRIEF RESUME OF DUTY ASSIGNMENTS:

<b>Aug 63-Aug 65</b>	<b>BCT, AIT &amp; OCS, Forts Leonard Wood and Sill</b>
<b>Sep 65-Sep 66</b>	<b>FO, Asst S3, Aerial Observer, 1-21 FA, 1 CAV Div, RVN</b>
<b>1967</b>	<b>Instructor, Tactics &amp; Comb Arms Dept, USAFAS, Fort Sill</b>
<b>Jan 68-Jan 69</b>	<b>C Btry Cdr, Bde FSO, 3-319 FA, 173<sup>rd</sup> Abn Bde, RVN</b>
<b>1969</b>	<b>FAOAC 5-69 (Commandant's List)</b>
<b>1970</b>	<b>ORWAC 70-34 (flight school, Honor Grad), Forts Wolters &amp; Rucker</b>
<b>1971</b>	<b>A Btry Cdr, 6-9 FA, 42d Arty Grp, V Corps Arty, Giessen, FRG</b>
<b>1972-Jul 74</b>	<b>Operations Officer, Air Cav Troop, 2 ACR, Nuernberg, FRG</b>
<b>Aug 74-Nov 75</b>	<b>Adjutant, 4<sup>th</sup> Avn Bn, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf Div, Fort Carson, CO</b>

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

**Silver Star**  
**Bronze Star w/Oak Leaf Cluster**  
**Air Medal**  
**Army Commendation Medal**  
**National Defense Service Medal**  
**Armed Forces Reserve Medal**  
**Vietnam Campaign Medal**  
**Vietnam Service Medal (7 OLC)**  
**4 Overseas Service Bars**  
**Parachutist Badge**  
**Army Aviation Badge**

## GENERAL REMARKS:

On 29 January 1966, 2LT Jankowski, Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 21<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery was assigned to B Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry as the Forward Observer. That day the 1-7 Cav was conducting a battalion search and destroy mission east of **Bong Son, Binh Dinh** Province, Republic of Vietnam. As the understrength company approached the village of **Tan An**, it came under heavy small arms and automatic weapons fire from prepared positions by a numerically superior North Vietnamese Regular Infantry force of approximately battalion strength.

The Commander of B Company and the only other platoon leader became casualties almost immediately, rendering them unable to continue their duties. 2LT Jankowski, without hesitation or regard for his personal safety, immediately assumed command of B Company. B Company was trapped in a perfectly executed L-shaped ambush by enemy troops who had been using the village as a cantonment area.

2LT Jankowski fought B Company through the ambush to a position of relative cover in order to prepare an assault on the village. He diverted a flight of Aerial Rocket Artillery (ARA) to provide direct support and called it in on the village to prepare the objective for assault. When the ARA expended their rockets, 2LT Jankowski personally and aggressively led the assault on the village and completely routed the remaining enemy. 2LT Jankowski continued his movement approximately a kilometer beyond the village where he consolidated, established local security, redistributed ammunition within the company, and awaited further orders.

The battalion executive officer, MAJ Wirth, assumed command of the battalion after the battalion commander became a casualty. MAJ Wirth gave 2LT Jankowski verbal orders to remain in command of B Company. 2LT Jankowski was to remain in command for the next 5 hours until a qualified Infantry Company Commander was able to relieve him.

During 2LT Jankowski's brief voluntary assumption of command, he successfully fought through a deadly ambush with a relatively low casualty rate of 5 killed and 15 wounded, and assaulted and defeated an enemy village. His gallantry and intrepidity were further recognized by the battlefield verbal orders of the battalion commander which ordered him to remain in command of the rifle company.

2LT Jankowski remained with the battalion at the Forward Observer for the duration of the operation. His actions so impressed the new battalion commander, MAJ Wirth, that Wirth personally attempted to recognize 2LT Jankowski's actions by award of the Combat Infantry Badge. This recommendation, however, was never approved. 2LT Jankowski was awarded the Silver Star for this and other actions in the **Bong Dinh** Province in 1966.

ATSF-AI

MEMORANDUM FOR Assistant Commandant, USAFAS

SUBJECT: Nomination for Induction to the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame (re: Raymond Jankowski)

1. Mr Raymond Jankowski, Field Artillery OCS Class 3-65, is nominated for induction into the Field Artillery OCS Hall of Fame.
2. Mr Jankowski served the US Army in the Field Artillery Branch from August 1963 to November 1975 and attained the rank of captain. He served two tours in combat in the Republic of Vietnam. During one of these tours, as a second lieutenant forward observer, he assumed command of an infantry company while in a fire fight. He broke free from an ambush, assaulted an objective and defeated an enemy position of approximately battalion strength. For his actions and gallantry, he was awarded the Silver Star. A complete description is contained in the biographical sketch attached as an enclosure.
3. A photograph of Mr Jankowski in Class "A" uniform is currently not available, but will be available prior to 21 May 1998.
4. POC is the undersigned, 2-4640/4948.

DAVID C. CUTLER  
COL, FA  
Director, Office of the Chief of  
Field Artillery