

30 June 1971

**SUBJECT: Nomination to Field Artillery OCS Hall of Fame**

Custodian  
OCS Hall of Fame  
Leadership Brigade  
Fort Sill, Okla 73503

1. In accordance with Redleg Newsletter Number 02, DA OPO FA Branch, Washington DC 20315, dated 3 Nov 70, the staff of this organization wishes to nominate COLONEL WILLIAM SLATERY MARTIN (01177898) to the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame.

2. Colonel Martin meets the prerequisites for induction to the Hall of Fame as established in criteria of above reference. The following additional information, relative to this nomination, is submitted for your consideration.

a. Colonel William S. Martin enlisted as a private in the Army National Guard of Colorado on 24 Sep 40. His unit was called to Active Federal Service during WW II on 24 Feb 41. He attended FA OCS at Fort Sill, Okla during the period 16 Nov 42 to 17 Feb 43 and received his commission as 2LT FA on 18 Feb 43. He served with the 71st Armored FA Battalion in the European Theater during the period 9 Feb 44 to 6 Oct 45 as Forward Observer, Liaison Officer and Battery Executive Officer. During this period he earned the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal and the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, along with the European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal and the American Defense Medal. He also had the distinction of shooting down a German aircraft with an Army .45 caliber pistol while flying as an air observer during the final days of the war. (See "The Last Battle" by Cornelius Ryan).

b. Colonel Martin was a member of ORC from his discharge on 10 Dec 45 until 11 Feb 48 when he was again appointed in the Colorado Army National Guard as 1LT FA. He has served with the Field Artillery of this state until the present date, except for a two year period when he was detailed to General Staff with the State Headquarters, where he served as G-3 for Colorado Army National Guard.

c. Colonel Martin has commanded Svc Btry 168th FA Bn, Btry B 168th FA Bn, 1st Bn (155mm T) 157th Arty, and assumed command of the 169th Artillery Group on 22 Mar 71. During the period 11 Feb 48 to present he has also capably filled many other key staff positions such as S-3 and Executive Officer, during his progression to each higher command.

d. This officer completed the Associate FA Officer Advance Course on 16 Jun 51 and the Associate Command and General Staff Officer Course on 20 Dec 63. He was selected for attendance and completed the Reserve Component Armed Forces Orientation Course at the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia on 20 Jan 67. He attended the University of Colorado, after WW II, where he obtained a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1949. He works for the State of Colorado and is one of the key personnel in the Emergency Operations Center located at Camp George West, Golden, Colorado.

e. Colonel Martin has completed over 30 years of service to his country, in the active and reserve components, as a Field Artillery Officer. His tireless and knowledge leadership has been an inspiration to all who have served with him, and has been a real and lasting contribution to the Field Artillery.

3. The staff of the 169th Artillery Group unanimously and whole-heartedly recommend that this capable and dedicated graduate of the FA OCS be inducted into his rightful place in the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame.

LOUIS E. BEST  
MAJ, FA, Colo ARNG  
Adjutant