

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Company H, 2nd Battalion
United States Army Engineer Officer Candidate Regiment
Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060

AHBES-OC SH

12 June 1969

SUBJECT: After action Report-Candidate Company Commander

Executive Officer
Company H, 2nd Battalion
US Army Engineer Officer Candidate Regiment
Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060

1. I assumed my position as Candidate Company Commander following Battalion formation 3 June 1969, along with OC's Doeber-einer as Executive Officer, Cooper as First Sergeant, Tygum as Supply Sergeant, and Greenlee as Maintenance Sergeant. After an orientation by the outgoing chain of command, I read the Candidate Company Commander's SOP in order to establish my duties and responsibilities. I then insured that the other members of the chain of command understood their duties. Having somewhat coordinated the activities of the Chain of Command, the individuals departed to their respective jobs.
2. My principal duty as Candidate Company Commander was to maintain the discipline, control, appearance, and morale of the company. In order to accomplish these goals, several particular duties had to be performed which were primarily of a supervisory nature. To check discipline and appearance of the company, stand-by billets inspections were conducted for both underclass platoons prior to the Cadre inspection Saturday morning. The entire company area was inspected each day and deficiencies noted and corrected through the platoon leaders of the platoons, of the Candidate First Sergeant. Study halls were checked each night, and again corrected when necessary through the platoon leaders. Morale became a serious factor in the company as a result of the Regimental shake-up involving Foxtrot Company on Saturday morning, and the repercussions felt in Hotel Company. To cope with this problem, I talked with each platoon individually, noting the company's deficiencies and stressing the importance of making needed improvements. Other more general duties involved the supervision of all subordinates and the coordination of their duties.
3. The only problems which I encountered during my tour arose in this area of coordination and supervision of subordinates. In my opinion, too much supervision of the Upperclass platoon leaders was necessary because of their inefficiency in organizing their men. The chain of command communications to the platoon

level was weak also. This fact compounded the situation during the first part of my tour. These problems were eventually rectified through personal contact with the individuals involved at which time I explained the necessity for efficient operations at all levels.

4. There were several projects undertaken and completed by this chain of command. Three additions were made to the Company Commander's office; a new name plate for the door, a scrapbook in which to keep material related to Hotel Company's activities, and a carved Engineer Insignia for the wall. The supply room door was repainted complete with Hotel Company and class designations. A detail was sent to Chapel 6 to help them with their spring cleaning for one good deed for the week. I was also personally responsible for three major assignments. The first was the revision of the Candidate Company Commander's SOP. This mission was accomplished through a committee composed of past Candidate Company Commanders Gehley, Davis, Blackburn, Henry, and myself. Several recommendations were sent to the Company Executive Officer concerning this matter. A second major responsibility was the organization for the company inspection Saturday morning. The schedule was followed, and the inspection went smoothly despite a late start due to a misunderstanding on my part and the tardiness of the Underclass. My largest and most rewarding responsibility as Candidate Company Commander was the organization of the Company for the parade on Tuesday. After some confusion as to the status of the Underclass for the parade, it was decided that those not designated as State Flag bearers would march. This initially caused much concern because there was no opportunity to conduct a practice for the completely inexperienced underclass. Despite this fact, with a long talk-through and on-the-spot corrections by the Juniors, Hotel Company made a very respectable showing in the parade.

5. The opportunity to serve as Candidate Company Commander was by far the most interesting and rewarding experience I have had at OCS. Learning a great deal about the operation of the chain of command and the awesome task of supervising the many varied company activities was most interesting. The task of planning for the parade was particularly valuable with its challenges in communication, organization and control.

JEFFREY O. ELLIS
RA68004324
Officer Candidate, Class 22