

Military Biography of CW4 Joseph Anthony Borges Sr. Papa Joe, Mr. CMA

Compiled by MSG Joseph A. Borges Jr.
September 2017



Joseph Anthony Borges Sr. was a soldier in the California Army National Guard from February 2, 1949 to October 10, 1990, an illustrious career that spanned 6 decades. He enlisted 4 years after WWII, and served continuously for 41 years. He was a father, husband, teacher, administrator, innovator, humanitarian and friend to everyone who knew him. The National Guard was part of his extended family. As a Roman Catholic his faith was apparent in everything he did. His contribution to the service cannot be measured but the California Army National Guard would not be the same without his influence and contribution. The following biography documents his accomplishments and shows his dedication and commitment to officer training and commissioning for the State of California and the United States of America.

The Medal of Merit (Second Award) Citation:

“During the period 1 July 1975 to 30 August 1978, Chief Warrant Officer Joseph A. Borges, Sr. held the position of the Administrative Assistant, California Military Academy. Rarely in the annals of the California National Guard has an individual under any circumstances devoted so much of himself to a given task. Chief Warrant Officer Borges has never been content to view his assignment as the ministerial function it could be, rather has striven to refine, streamline and improve the myriad of administrative missions involved in the operation of a program headquartered at on site and ongoing at two other, widely separated locations. To the degree that it is possible for an individual to personify the dedication required for those who wish to gain commissions through the Academy. His own example in this regard says clearly: “Follow me.” Administration, per se, offers little glamour and much anonymity: Chief Warrant Officer Borges brings constant and complimentary attention to his work, rather than to himself. His maintenance of excellence as a standard, not as a goal, reflects great credit upon himself and the California National Guard.”

Major General Frank J. Shober, Jr. Commanding.

October 5, 1928 Jose Borges was born in New Bedford Massachusetts to Eugene and Maria (Cabral) Borges who immigrated to the United States from the Azores Portugal.

February 2, 1949 Enlisted in the California Army National Guard. First assignment was with the 1/184th Infantry Regiment (Sacramento CA) of the 49th Infantry Division. He rapidly advanced through the ranks becoming a Squad Leader, and then Platoon Sergeant. While with the 1/184th he appears in a group photo that was take at Camp Cooke CA as a Sergeant First Class (E-7) in June of 1951, and in another photo at Fort Hunter Leggett in June of 1952. These dates would coincide with traditional California Army National Guard - Annual Training (Summer Camp) periods

NOTE: Private Borges did not attend traditional Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) as that training was not available to National Guardsman (after WWII) until the early 1960's. For newly recruited soldiers, this training was conducted at home station (During drills) and at Annual Training (usually 2 weeks every summer) in recruit battalions formed by Divisions. During the AT phase, instructors and TAC officers were often cadets from the state OCS Program (This, according to Robert C. Thrasher)

NOTE: Because of the type of unit he was assigned and based on the positions held, his first Duty MOS (Military Occupation Specialty) was likely or the equivalent of a 11B (Combat Infantryman).

NOTE: He trained at many bases including Camp Beale CA, Camp San Luis Obispo CA (originally named Camp Merriam), Camp Roberts CA, Fort Hunter Liggett CA and Camp Cooke CA(Now Vandenberg AFB near Lompoc California), *Ft. Benjamin Harrison ID, *Fort Rucker AL, Fort Lee VA, Ft. Benning GA), Presidio of Monterey CA.

*Correspondence Courses

NOTE: Camp Cooke was a training installation for units slated for combat in Korea, as well as a summer training base for other reserve units. Though SFC Borges's unit was not mobilized for the Korean War, it is known that his unit trained at Camp Cooke in 1951 so SFC Borges was likely involved in the training and mobilization of deploying units.

NOTE: CWO Borges spent many summers training at Camp San Luis Obispo, the home of the original OCS program for the California National Guard that became the California Military Academy around 1961-62. Today, the State military schools programs are now under the control of the 223rd Infantry Regiment at the base.

NOTE: While a CW3 he performed a buddy seat descent from the 250 parachute jump tower at the U. S. Army Infantry School - Airborne Department

April 17, 1949 Married Lucinda Miguel (See articles printed in the Grizzly Magazine and Supplement below)

NOTE: The military story about CW4 Borges would not be complete without mentioning his family. Like all successful soldiers, the support of their spouse and family is critical, and CW4 Borges was no different. What made his situation unique was that his wife Lucy was totally deaf. But that was no obstacle to Lucy as they raised 6 children (Joseph Jr., Lucinda, Eugene, Anna, Martin and Anita) in Sacramento California, all the while providing her husband with the support needed to be very successful.

Credit should also be given to his parents, Eugene and Maria, who helped raise their grandchildren, and raised a wonderful man to be a good son, husband, father, soldier and an icon in the California Army National Guard.



July 9, 1950 Atomic Energy Indoctrination Course at Camp San Luis Obispo CA (First record of Training - likely given at Annual Training)

December 6, 1950 began working full time for the National Guard, at State Headquarters in Sacramento California. Capt Nicholas Palermo was his supervisor and would become a lifelong friend.

By March 21, 1955 he was assigned to HHD State Headquarters in Sacramento California, where he performed the duties of Cadet Company Supply Sergeant and HHD First Sergeant (he appeared in the group photo for the Office of the Adjutant General on this date).

Dec 14, 1956 became a Warrant Officer. His first assignment was in the Facilities Branch for the State of California Military Department (he appears in a Facilities Branch group photo as a young WO1).

January 5, 1960 became a CW2. It was around this time he was a mess officer and attended the Mess Admin Course in 1961.

1962 brought his sons Joseph and Eugene to Camp San Luis Obispo, where the boys worked in the CMA mess hall serving Cadets. They stayed with their father in his quarters (hut) on the post. Both boys would go on to graduate from the Academy.



May 2, 1962 CW2 Borges became the Administrative Assistant of the State Officer Candidate School (OCS) Program in the Operations and Training Branch at State HQ. The OCS program would become the California Military Academy. His position would be reclassified as Administrative Officer. His Duty MOS was 711A Personnel/Administrative Technician. He replaced Robert C. Thrasher who would become a lifelong friend, a Major General and the Adjutant General of the California National Guard 1988-1992.



NOTE: He was a State of California employee on his full-time job and a CW4 in the reserves and received pay from both the federal government for his military service (DFAS) and from the State of California as a State civil servant. He would earn retirements from both systems as well as from Social Security. His wife Lucy would receive spousal survivor benefits from all 3.

NOTE: The schools program was part of the Operations and Training with Col Paul Bifford as the Chief.

January 5, 1966 became a CW3

January 5, 1972 became a CW4 and spent remainder of his full time career with the California Military Academy.

1974 Son Eugene E. Borges graduated from the California Military Academy and would go on to provide support as a TAC Officer. (Teach, Advise, Counsel)

1975 Son Joseph A. Borges Jr. graduated from the California Military Academy and would later provide support. In 1986 he was the editor of the Academy's yearbook, '**The Golden Challenge**'. CW4 Borges, was the yearbook's advisor at the time.

NOTE: 1974 and 1975 were proud moments for CW4 Borges and his family. The Chief was the first to salute both sons after they graduated from the California Military Academy, receiving the traditional dollar bill, with CMA Brass attached, that went to the first person to salute a new Second Lieutenant.

1975 Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Instructor Performance - California Army National Guard In Service Training School given at Camp San Luis Obispo CA

1975 -1992 Volunteer and Coordinator of the State Employees Holiday Food Program. He received a Certificate of Commendation signed by Governor George Deukmejian in 1984.

1977 he was one of the first Warrant Officers in California to graduate from the Warrant Officers Senior Course.

1980's Conducted many CMA Leadership Symposiums throughout California including Los Angeles, San Diego and Fresno.

1980's Conducted many MP3 Mobilization Preparedness Workshops throughout California.

Aug 31, 1986 Life Member of the California Military Academy Alumni Association

July 1, 1987 according to DA 4240 this was the date of retirement, which is believed to be the retirement from his State Active Duty full time job. He remained in the Army National Guard as a reservist (See Below)

August 15, 1988 Transferred to Unit Personnel Tech (420A0) Detachment 4 STARC (State Area Command) in Alameda California, and was attached to the 340th Support Battalion in San Lorenzo California to provide administrative support.

November 1, 1990 retired from the Army National Guard and transferred to the Retired Reserve. He began receiving military retirement pay with 4586 points.

June 22, 2000 CW4 Joseph Anthony Borges Sr. died in Sacramento California and was buried with military honors in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

August 20, 2005 Camp San Luis Obispo, during graduation ceremonies, restored Borges' office and set up displays, to honor his more than 36 years of service to military education for the California National Guard. (Hook rug, below, was made by Lucy Borges)

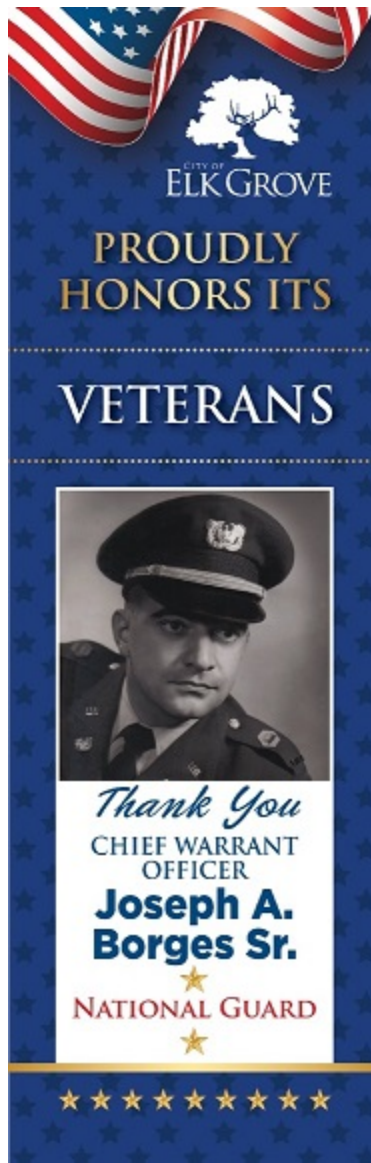


CMA ring belonging to CW4 Borges



Aug and December 2005 Articles on CW4 Borges and his wife Lucy were published in the Grizzly Supplemental and in the Grizzly Magazine (See Below)

July 2017 Military Veterans Street Banner was erected in Elk Grove California honoring Chief Warrant Officer Borges, as a Veteran, for his service in the National Guard.



NOTE: Some of CW4 Borges fine collection of military photos and memorabilia, will be donated to the California State Military Museum. On the following page is his 1SG Uniform that was on display at the 223rd Inf Reg in 2005. Also, an enlargement of the photo on the left that shows him wearing the shirt.



Schools Attended:

Atomic Energy Indoctrination Course	1950
GED McClellan AFB, Sacramento CA	1954
Advance Leaders Course	1954
Associate Army Intelligence Company Officers Course	1960
Mess Administration Course	1961
Military Personnel Officer Course	1970
Automatic Data Processing Systems Analysis	1975
Warrant Officer Senior Course	1977
BTMS Managers Qualification Course	1982
BTMS Platoon Trainer Workshop	1983
Personnel School	1983
CAMIST Ph I	1984
Personnel Admin School	1984
Continental Army Management Information System Training	1984
USPFO Proc School	1986

Awards, Ribbons and Decorations

Army Meritorious Service Medal (ARMSM)
Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM)
Army Achievement Medal (AAM)
Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (ARCAM)
Army Armed Forces Reserve Medal (AAFRM)
Army NCO Professional Development Ribbon (NCOPD)
Army Service Ribbon (ASR)
California Medal of Merit (CAMM)
California Commendation Medal (CACOM)
California Good Conduct Medal/Ribbon (CAGCM)
California Service Medal (CACSM)
California State Service Ribbon (CASSR)
California National Guard Drill Attendance Military Ribbon (CADAR)
California Commendation Ribbon (CACM)
Governor's Outstanding Unit Citation (CAGOUC)

NOTE: Many of these Ribbons and Medals were received multiple times, as the devices on his ribbons indicate. In addition, CW4 Borges received dozens of certificates, citations, letters of appreciation and other written accolades during his 41 years of service.

Medals and Ribbons (In order of precedence)



California Memorial Medal (Awarded after his death)



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TOP THREE PHOTO COURTESY OF CSLO



A young 1st Lt. Robert O'Neill (above) worked with Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges (2nd photo, 1st row) in the mid 80s. Col. O'Neill comforts Borges' wife Lucy (1st photo, 2nd row) during a special dedication at CSLO last August. CSLO also honored Maj. Gen. Willard A. Shank (3rd Photo, 1st row) during a special ceremony with his wife Elizabeth and grandson (2nd photo, 2nd row).



PHOTO BY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER PAT SPROUL

PHOTO BY CADET ROSA DEL DUCA

(AKO) username and password to validate the personal information that they update. We request that our readers pass this information to all families not receiving the Grizzly.

Wife of the Man Who Taught Us to Take Care of Our Own, Thanks CSLO and Guard for Taking Care of Him.

Grizzly:

I can't find enough words to tell or to show my appreciation for my late husband's dedication. I was surprised and honored. It was great seeing old friends again and I was happy to have them in Joe's office. They made it easier for me to be there. I'm sure Joe was there with us too. I could feel his presence. He must have been sitting at the desk giving orders or playing cribbage. I never thought the CMA rug and Joe's 1st Sgt. shirt and his other personal things would be displayed somewhere someday. The pictures are beautiful, even though I was crying much of the time. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and for brightening up my day. God Bless you.

Lucy Borges

Lucy, how could we ever forget Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges? In reality, we can't because as you indicated, he is still with us. His work lives on each year at the state military academy—the 223rd Infantry Regiment Combat Arms formerly the California Military Academy. Graduates from the Officer Candidate, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer, and Pre-Command courses at San Luis Obispo pay homage to his memory each year when they accept their commissions and diplomas. Little do they realize the contributions that Joe made through his dedicated life to military education. When they accept their diplomas and commissions, they enter the National Guard family—Papa Joe's Family. For those readers who did not know Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges, read "Drums" on Page 15, and, "The Rose," on Page 18.

Former TAG's Wife, Family Honored by Tribute to His Memory

Thank you for the effort you made for the dedication ceremony and for the successful outcome. I was overwhelmed, as well as honored and pleased. Please convey my thanks to the men and women who assisted

you, especially Mark Johnson. We appreciate the prayers offered by the Chaplain (Col. Robert Johnson) and the reception was beautiful and enjoyable. Since Gen. (Willard) Shank retired in 1987, I have had very little contact with "things military," and therefore, I was not prepared for the ceremonial part. The entire Shank family was impressed and pleased. Thank you again. Sincerely,

Elizabeth Shank

Our readers can read about the dedication of the Willard A. Shank classroom in "Drums," on page 15 and "Legends Never Die" on page 19. In the movie, "Sandlot," Babe Ruth's ghost comes to Bennie Rodriguez and reminds him, "heroes get remembered, legends never die." Maj. Gen. Shank's generation, "the greatest generation," are legends. They taught us to value our Guard family. It's the Grizzly staff's hope that this great institution has not been remiss in maintaining contact with our retirees and their spouses. The countless hours they sacrificed during their watch were shared by spouses like you and Mrs. Borges, and are examples of an institutional matriarch that still influences the current generation. Thank you. 🐻

Tradition Reborn!



PHOTO COURTESY OF CSLO



TOP AND RIGHT PHOTO BY CADET ROSA DEL DUCA ROTC, CAL POLY, SAN LUIS OBISPO.

DRUMS
DRUMS

DRUMS. DRUMS. DRUMS. DRUMS IN MY HEART ARE DRUMMING. I HEAR THE CADENCE CALLING. MY BONNIE CADENCE CORPS IS CALLING TO ME. SOME NATIONS HAVE GREAT SONS. BUT OURS HAVE THE GREATEST ONES. MY BONNIE CADENCE CORPS IS CALLING TO ME. WE'LL MEET THEM ON THE SHORE. WADE THROUGH THE BLOOD AND GORE. ALL FOR THE HONOR AND THE GLORY OF THE CORPS. DRUMS IN MY HEART ARE DRUMMING. I HEAR THE CADENCE CALLING. MY BONNIE CADENCE CORPS IS CALLING TO ME. DRUMS, DRUMS, DRUMS, DRUMS.....

Perhaps the more than 1,000 people attending the 54th Leadership Graduation ceremonies at Camp San Luis Obispo Aug. 20 did not hear the words of this old California Military Academy cadence, but its chorus was clearly felt as it resurrected nearly five and a half decades of memories, camaraderie, and tradition at the Original Home of The California National Guard. It summoned ghosts whose spirits floated among those present during the week's rebirth of tradition.

PHOTOS: The 54th annual Leadership Graduation Ceremonies at Camp San Luis Obispo celebrated the rebirth of tradition, living up to its motto, "Camp San Luis Obispo, where sacrifices are never forgotten, and soldiers are always remembered."



PHOTO COURTESY OF CSLO

The drums beat for three days beginning on Aug. 17th, when Camp San Luis Obispo leaders dedicated the new Urban Training Complex to the memory of the first California National Guardsmen killed in Iraq—Staff Sgt. David S. Perry. Ironically, it was Perry’s Birthday, and fittingly the complex is located on the post where Perry’s unit, the 649th Military Police Company, trains.

The drum tempo intensified Friday the 19th, touching the hearts of graduates from both the California’s Military Academy (CMA) and the 223rd Infantry Regiment (Combat Arms) during the dedication of the Maj. Gen. Willard A. Shank classroom. Shank was the adjutant general from 1983 through 1987. A renowned scholar, civilian attorney, and legendary athlete, he got the California National Guard up and running both literally and figuratively during his watch. He not only ran and trained with the California National Guard running teams that always placed high in national competition during his era, but led the drive to reorganize the Guard into a more proficient fighting force and upgraded its capabilities during the military buildup under President Reagan. Governor Ronald Reagan was the last California governor to review a California Academy graduating class.

California’s Officer and Senior Enlisted Non-Commissioned Officer training programs were known as the California Military Academy from 1961 until 1987. In 1987, state military academies nationwide were re-designated as Regional Training Institutes and incorporated into the Total Army School System. Each academy was allowed to select a historical regiment that best represented the spirit of the State and the School. California changed its name to the 223rd Infantry Regiment based on its historical affiliation to the 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized). The 223rd distinguished itself during the Korean War. Three of its soldiers received the Medal of Honor, two of which were received in the same battle. Only one other regiment within the Army National Guard can claim this in its lineage.

On Saturday, the cadence beckoned the spirits of all graduates, living and dead, from all spectrums of the academy’s lineage—spiritually forming them into an alumni platoon, whose collective souls conjured up images of graduations past. For the first time in nearly two decades a prominent cabinet officer addressed the graduating class. Matthew Bettenhausen, the director of the Office of Homeland Security, was the first high-ranking state cabinet member since B.T. Collins to address a California Military Academy class. Collins was the former Chief of Staff for Gov. Jerry Brown, deputy finance director for California, director of the California Youth Authority and was also an elected member of the California State Assembly. He died in 1993.

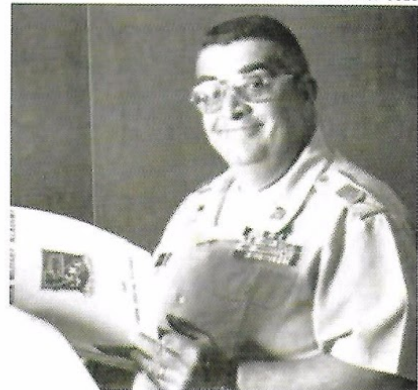
Bettenhausen did not disappoint—perhaps unconsciously inspired by unseen generations of soldiers that have embraced the academy’s core values. “Our generation, this generation, your generation has been called to duty—to tradition,” Bettenhausen said to the 100 leadership graduates. Nine-eleven was only the third time in our history that the United States was attacked on its own soil. You are fighting an ideology of hate, fear, and oppression. A Nation with no boundaries. You fulfill a tremendous mission.”

And almost as if California’s Military leadership ghosts were whispering into his ear of how past Guard leaders marched through the blood and gore, Bettenhausen in essence traced the state military’s contributions for the past two and a half decades as he revealed his admiration, experience, and homeland security vision for the Guard. He described his observations of the Guard’s support of the U.S. Customs Service and U.S. Border Patrol in protecting the Southwest Border from drugs and terrorist intrusions, its cooperation with civilian authorities during emergencies, and its recent contributions and sacrifices in the Global War on Terrorism.

“Overseas you have a very challenging mission,” Bettehausen said. “We have damaged Al Queda. “It has been important to our Homeland Security mission. You must continue

“The ceremonies included a special tribute to a special man, who many consider the academy’s greatest son—or more appropriately father—Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF CSLO



TOP: A 1950s Command returns Military Academy graduates’ pass in review salute. BOTTOM: Joe Borges set CMA’s gold standard.

this fight. Through your efforts, we will see this through. I recognize you on behalf of the Governor.”

Then as if the drums were calling to its greatest sons, emcee Rory Aylward, punctuated his narration with recognition of former graduates who rose to prominence. The list included the current Adjutant General Maj. Gen. William Wade II, Brig. Gen. John Alexander, the current Commandant of the 223rd, Col. Kevin Ellsworth, Col. Robert O’Neill, a former Commandant of the 223rd and the project officer overseeing the leadership graduations for the last two years, and the first CMA graduate ever to occupy the position of The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. (retired) Robert Thrasher.

The ceremonies included a special tribute



PHOTO COURTESY OF CSLO

Cpl. Robert Thrasher second row, second person and Joe Borges (right of Thrasher) during early CMA staff meeting.

to a special man, who many consider the academy’s greatest son—or more appropriately father—Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges. He died in 2000 after serving nearly 36 years as the administrator for the California Military Academy. He was known to many as “Mr. CMA” or “Papa Joe.” Borges’ wife, Lucy, daughter-in-law Carol, and grandson, Scott, represented him at the ceremonies. Two of the Borges’ sons graduated from Papa Joe’s beloved CMA: Eugene in ‘74; and Joey in ‘75. Eugene died in 1991, and Joey retired in 2005. One CMA graduate once recalled, “I will never forget him putting his arms around my shoulders and telling me that being part of the ‘CMA family is an honor and a privilege. Now that’s what I call a family—the Guard Family, Papa Joe’s family.”

In tribute to Borges, O’Neill ensured that the traditional pomp and circumstance was executed with the same precision and military

crispness as it was carried out during Borges’ 36-years of service. The 100 graduates from OCS, the Company-Level Pre-Command Course, and the Basic Non-Commissioned Officer courses conducted formation of troops, presentation of command and honors, inspection of arms, honors to the nation and pass in review, with the reverence obligatory of custom and tradition. A tradition that stretches back through three and a half centuries of U.S. Military History and reaches into the military customs of the Roman Empire 2000 years ago. The graduates responded in the fashion that would have made Borges proud. They banded together, became a unit, and, in the words of the 2005 OCS Class Respondent, Officer Candidate Robert Schumann—now 2Lt Schumann, “cooperated and graduated. We started out as

It’s what Gen. Douglas MacArthur might have called California’s “long gray line that never fails us,” in his immortal speech, “Duty, Honor, Country.”

individuals,” Schumann said, “but ended up as family.” Schumann literally meant family, as he ordered the class to its feet to salute the wives, husbands, fathers, mothers, sons and daughters who stuck by, encouraged, and endured the pressures that come with outlasting a tough and rigorous program.

“(Our class consisted of) police officers, engineers, students, teachers, hair dressers,” Schumann said, “We had to come together for one purpose—to earn our commissions.” The families shared in the pride as Senior Army Advisor Col. Kenton Ashworth administered the Oath of Office to the newly commissioned officers. It was followed by dramatic demonstrations of some of the equipment for which the new officers will take responsibility, including CH-47s, UH-60s, and Huey helicopter flyovers. The class of ‘05 initiated a tradition of its own following the graduation ceremony by remembering one of their own—1st Lt. Michael Vega—a 2003 graduate killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom in March 2004. Michael Vega’s mother Maria Nothnagel and step father Jon Nothnagel attended the

special memorial ceremony organized in their son’s honor.

“He was here,” Jon said, “You could feel him here—and he’s (Vega) happy.” Jon was right; the families, former officers, Central Coast communities as well as the “invisible” Alumni Platoon comprised of the spirits of 54 years of graduates were there—at Camp San Luis Obispo where sacrifices are never forgotten, and soldiers are always remembered. They gathered for an annual rebirth of tradition where the words duty, honor, country transcend beyond just mere words. They take on meaning, feeling, life, and are clearly defined in the California National Guardsmen’s core value system.

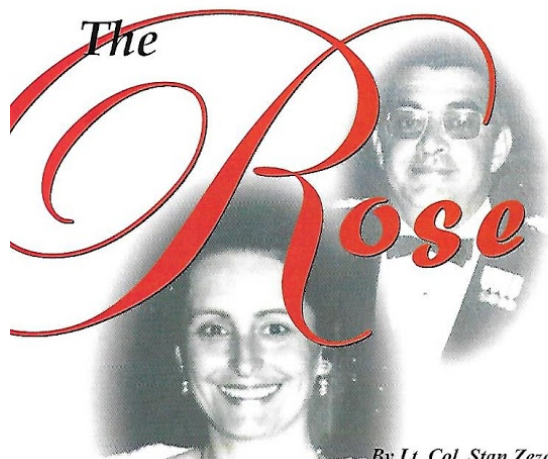
It’s where duty is a calling, honor is something real and tangible, and country is



PHOTO BY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER PATRICK SPROLL

Officer candidate Robert Schumann accepts the General Robert L. Lemen Award from Brig. Gen. John Alexander.

an allegiance uniting generations of soldiers. They are core values for which Camp San Luis Obispo is the custodian, ensuring that the cadence echoes onto the next class and that its volume gains momentum and reconvenes leaders both present and past, living and dead, in a reveille of camaraderie. It’s what Gen. Douglas MacArthur might have called California’s “long gray line that never fails us,” in his immortal speech, “Duty, Honor, Country.” If MacArthur had graduated from CMA, perchance, his immortal speech that concluded: “today marks my final roll call with you, but I want you to know that when I cross the river, my last conscious thoughts will be of the Corps, and the Corps, and the Corps,” may have instead ended as: “...my last conscious thoughts will be to join my California comrades in the cadence, “Drums, Drums, Drums, Drums in my heart are drumming...” 🥁



By Lt. Col. Stan Zezotarski

The love and the pain came cascading through the caverns of time almost simultaneously as Lucy Borges cradled the rose sitting at the desk of her late husband, Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges August 20, 2005 at Camp San Luis Obispo.

"Every morning he would pick a rose from the garden and put it in my hair if I was awake, or lay it by my head on my pillow if I was asleep," recalled an emotional and tearful Lucy Borges as her face collapsed onto her hand while Col. Robert O'Neill, a former staff member of Mr. Borges comforted her. "Then, I woke up one morning and he brought me no more roses."

Perhaps the rose took on a more symbolic form, only to emerge at a strategic time in California National Guard history, – calling all who attended the state's leadership academy to remain committed and embrace its symbolic values of tenacity, compassion, and with reverence for their Guard family. The power of these qualities were magnified during this small ceremony at the 223rd Infantry Regiment (Combat Arms) headquarters.

Lt. Col. Kelly Fisher, commander of Camp San Luis Obispo, Maj. Mark Johnson, public affairs officer for Camp San Luis Obispo, and Warrant Officer Sandra Peralta, Camp San Luis Obispo historian restored Borges' office to honor his, and his family's, more than 36-years of service to military education to the California National Guard. The couple has an almost legendary love affair that is literally a case of "Love a first sight," since Lucy is deaf. The story is that a young Joe Borges repeatedly tried to get Lucy's attention by calling to her every day she passed him. Feeling ignored, Joe finally got a face-to-face meeting with the young Lucy at which time she could read his lips. The couple married a couple years later and had six children, two of which graduated from Joe's beloved "California Military Academy," Eugene in 1974, Joey in 1975. Eugene died in 1991.

Joe became the administrator for the California Military Academy from 1961 until 1987. In 1987, state military academies nationwide were re-designated as Regional

Training Institutes and incorporated into the Total Army School System. Joe died in 2000. He left behind an illustrious reputation earning the title of "Mr. CMA," for his devotion as well as "Papa Joe" for his infinite capacity for his immediate and broader California National Guard families.

Revered by his National Guard family, the 223rd Infantry restored his office—complete with pictures, plaques, and other memorabilia—to the condition it was in when Borges last occupied it 20 years ago. To commemorate, Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Gidley, commander of the 40th Infantry Division, Brig. Gen. James Combs, commander of the Army National Guard, Brig. Gen. John Alexander, assistant adjutant general, Col. (retired) Dennis Banowetz, Lt. Col. Sonja Banowetz, and Col. Robert O'Neill along with Camp San Luis Obispo staff accompanied Lucy, her daughter-in-law Carol, and grandson Scott on the tour of the old Warrant Officer's office.



Lucy soaked up memories as she viewed the CMA rug she knitted for her husband, gently gliding her fingers over pictures and mementos, and fondly floating back in time, while peering at displays of her husband's old First Sergeant uniform. Grasping the rose, Lucy asked for a few minutes alone; cradling both the rose and her husband's presence. Borges' grandson Scott was observed lumbering down one hall alone, heaving his shoulders as he vainly struggled to hold back tears. Little did he realize that all those around him were fighting a similar battle, illustrating that the mark of leadership is not the ability to repress emotions, but the capacity to acknowledge them—which Joe would have condoned.

All of this, however, may have been the work of a clever old Warrant Officer whose apparition perhaps tugged at the memories, bonds, and heart of his CMA family to leave one last rose. A symbolic rose whose power can bring veterans to the brink of tears, and whose compassion can unite his Guard family to hold it. This symbolic rose has mentored so many leaders that have emerged from California's "Long Gray Line," leaders such as Robert Thrasher, Bill Wade, James Delk, Dennis Banowetz, Robert O'Neill, Capt. Shashi Dawn, 1st Lt. Michael Vega, and Bill Jefferds. Despite the piercing that its thorns can inflict, its fragrance of honor continues to beckon new leaders to its ranks, daring them, challenging them to enter the state military academy and to pursue it, and join past graduates on an honor roll that reads like the "Whose Who" in California National Guard leadership. The old Warrant Officer left one last rose for his beloved Lucy, as well as a symbolic one for all those wishing to grasp it by enrolling in the Officer Candidate, Pre-command, or Non-Commissioned Officer courses and becoming part of "Papa Joe's family," the Guard family and calling (805) 594-6472. 🌹

Legends never die,

by Chief Warrant Officer-1 Sandra R. Peralta

Lucy knows he's here, and many former graduates can feel his presence, but for those graduating officers and enlisted leaders in the 54th annual Military Graduation Ceremonies at Camp San Luis Obispo Saturday, they may feel a legendary presence that they simply don't understand.

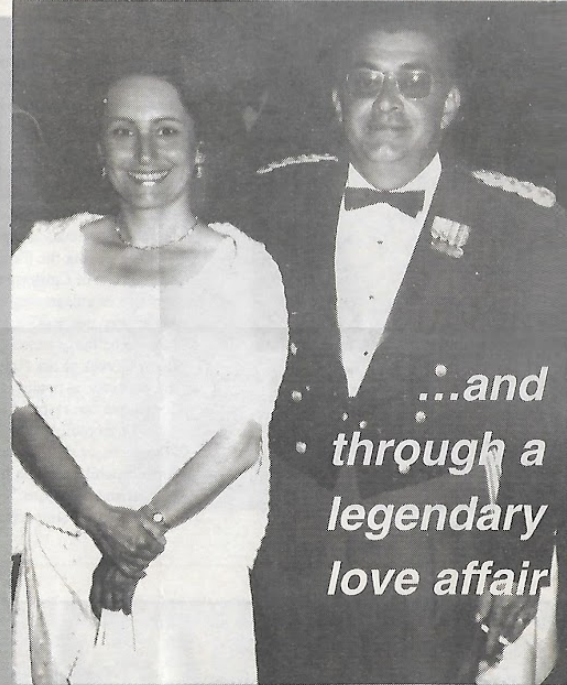
So an explanation is in order. It's your Guard family, it's the shadows and images of the California Military Academy (CMA), it's "Papa Joe," or Chief Warrant Officer-4 Joe Borges. He's a legend that literally organized staff and administratively directed the CMA when it was officially christened in 1961, and continued on for nearly 36 years. His influence was so powerful, that the post has resurrected his old office in Building 737, complete with his personal mementos, pictures, and uniforms. His wife Lucy will re-enter his office through the same side door she always entered when "Mr. CMA" occupied it nearly 20 years ago when she returns to Camp San Luis Obispo for this year's ceremonies.

The Chief Warrant Officer instinctively cared for everyone who worked for him and every officer candidate and enlisted person that passed through the CMA, giving inspiration to a motto that invaded the soul of every successful CMA graduate: "We take care of our own."

"He was a friend, a mentor, a leader, and a person who always made things better, maybe with a smile, or a pat on the back, but somehow if he wasn't there, it wasn't the same," said friend and colleague Chief Warrant Officer-4 Pat Sproul.

Commonly referred to as "Papa Joe," Borges dedicated his life to military education, his wife, and six children. He led by example. Borges wouldn't give his sons a moment rest until they agreed to enlist. When his children were younger, he required all six to learn the words to a National Guard ballad called "I am the Guard." His daughter Anna remembers, "One day my brothers Eugene and Joey were playing pool with a friend. Dad played that record over and over and piped it into the pool room at our house until all three of them ran out of the room begging, "Please turn it off! If you stop playing it we will sign up!" He did, and all three enlisted!" Those were proud days for my mom and dad when two of their sons graduated from dad's beloved CMA; Eugene in '74 and Joey in '75. Even after Borges' retirement, there didn't seem to be a day that he and Lucy didn't check on the staff to see how they were doing and offer his assistance. One CMA member said, "I will never forget him putting his arms around my shoulders and telling me that being part of the CMA family is an honor and a privilege. Now that's what I call a family – the Guard Family, Papa Joe's family."

So for this year's graduates, if you feel a strange sensation of invisible arms around your shoulders, it's probably the spirit of Chief Warrant Officer Borges welcoming you to the Guard family. Congratulations!



...and
through a
legendary
love affair

Lucy and Joe's love affair never died; it only grew by six children, then by countless adopted children in their broader National Guard and California Military Academy families, and continued into eternity after Joe died in 2000.

Their love affair got off to a slow start in 1944, and was more of a "love at first sight" since a deaf Lucy could not hear a young Joe Borges desperately trying to get her attention as he repeatedly echoed, "Hell-O." But once they were face-to-face, and Lucy could read his lips, it was the beginning of a love affair of which most people dream. For the next three years they dated, then in 1949 they married – the same year Joe joined the California National Guard.

While the Borges' raised six children – Joey, Cyndi, Eugene, Anna, Marty and Anita – Lucy and Joe nurtured their many relationships: husband and wife; mother and father; and Guard family. Most importantly, they were best friends. It was a family relationship that their children and friends strived to emulate. "My mom could be working in the yard and suddenly run into the house instinctively knowing that the baby was crying even though she was deaf," said daughter Anna. "She was in tune with people's needs – especially her family and friends." This instinct apparently transferred to Joe as he counseled, befriended, and watched out for thousands of future cadets, enlisted personnel, and warrant officers.

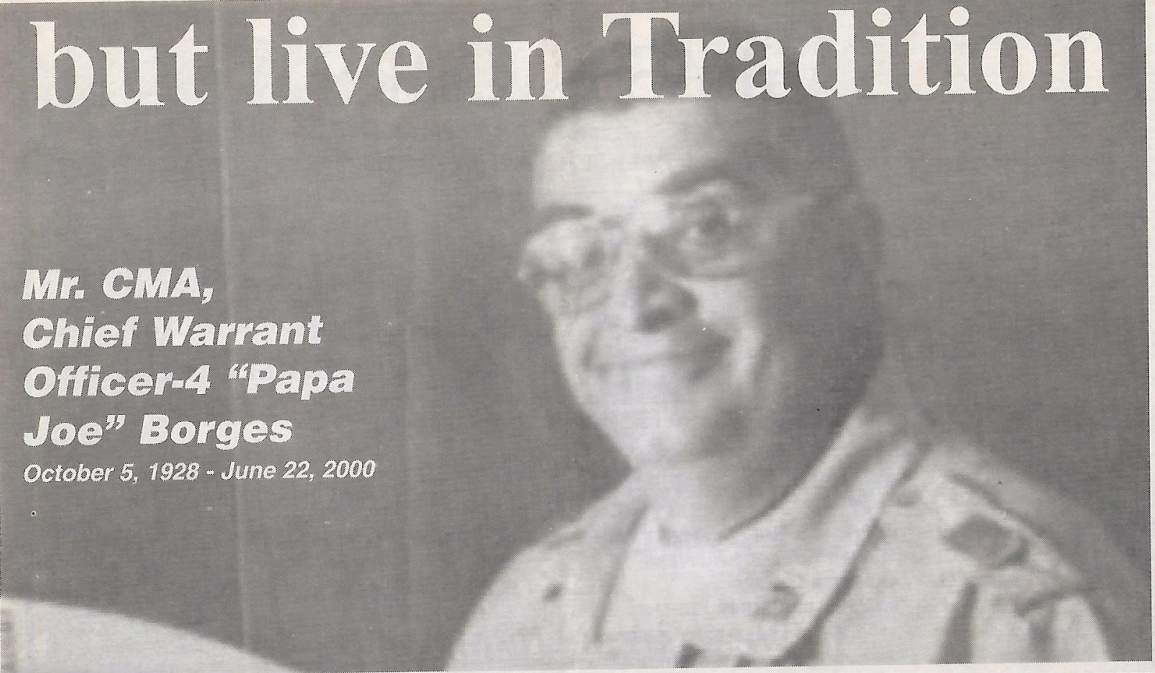
No records exist as to whether the couple ever argued, but one eye witness account recalls, "I don't remember my mom and dad ever having a major argument," Anna said. "I do remember, however, one minor thing when my mom simply turned her back, compelling my dad to reply, "How do you win an argument with this woman? All she has to do is turn her back on you and that's that!"

but live in Tradition

9

**Mr. CMA,
Chief Warrant
Officer-4 "Papa
Joe" Borges**

October 5, 1928 - June 22, 2000



The next 7 pages were extracted from the California National Guard's 54th Annual Leadership Graduation Ceremony program August 20, 2005



California National Guard's 54th Annual Leadership Graduation Ceremony

August 20, 2005
Hudelson Field
Camp San Luis Obispo
Original Home of the California National Guard

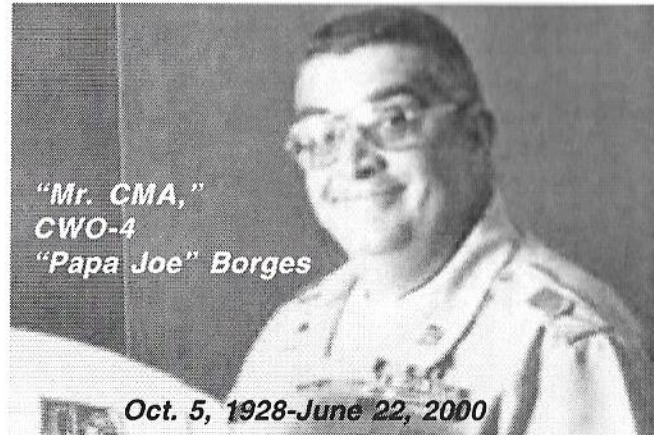
Many of today's graduates may feel an unseen presence. Perhaps as they pass in review, they will spot a shadowy apparition returning their ceremonious salute standing on the viewing amongst the official party.

Don't dismiss it as your imagination. It's your Guard family, it's the shadows and images of the California Military Academy (CMA), it's "Papa Joe," or Chief Warrant Officer-4 Joe Borges. He's a legend that literally organized staff and administratively directed the CMA when it was officially christened in 1961, and continued on for nearly 36 years.

Borges touched many of those working behind the scenes, in deed, many of the leaders on the reviewing stand today through mentoring, counseling, friendship, and pride.

One CMA alumni recalls, "I will never forget him putting his arms around my shoulders and telling me that being part of the CMA family is an honor and a privilege. Now that's what I call a family – the Guard Family, Papa Joe's family."

So for when you feel that CMA spirit cascading through time and defying logic, remember, it's Borges welcoming you to the Guard family. Despite unit redesignations, organizational changes, and expanded missions, the pride remains the same; it's the California National Guard's Military Academy, the Guard Family, "Papa Joe's, whose spirit continues to welcome each descending California Leadership class into the Guard family. Congratulations!



GRADUATION CEREMONY

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Master of Ceremonies Welcome Families and Guests
Arrival of the Official Party

REVIEW

Formation of Troops
Presentation of Command and Honors
Inspection
Honors to the Nation
Pass and Review

GRADUATION CEREMONY

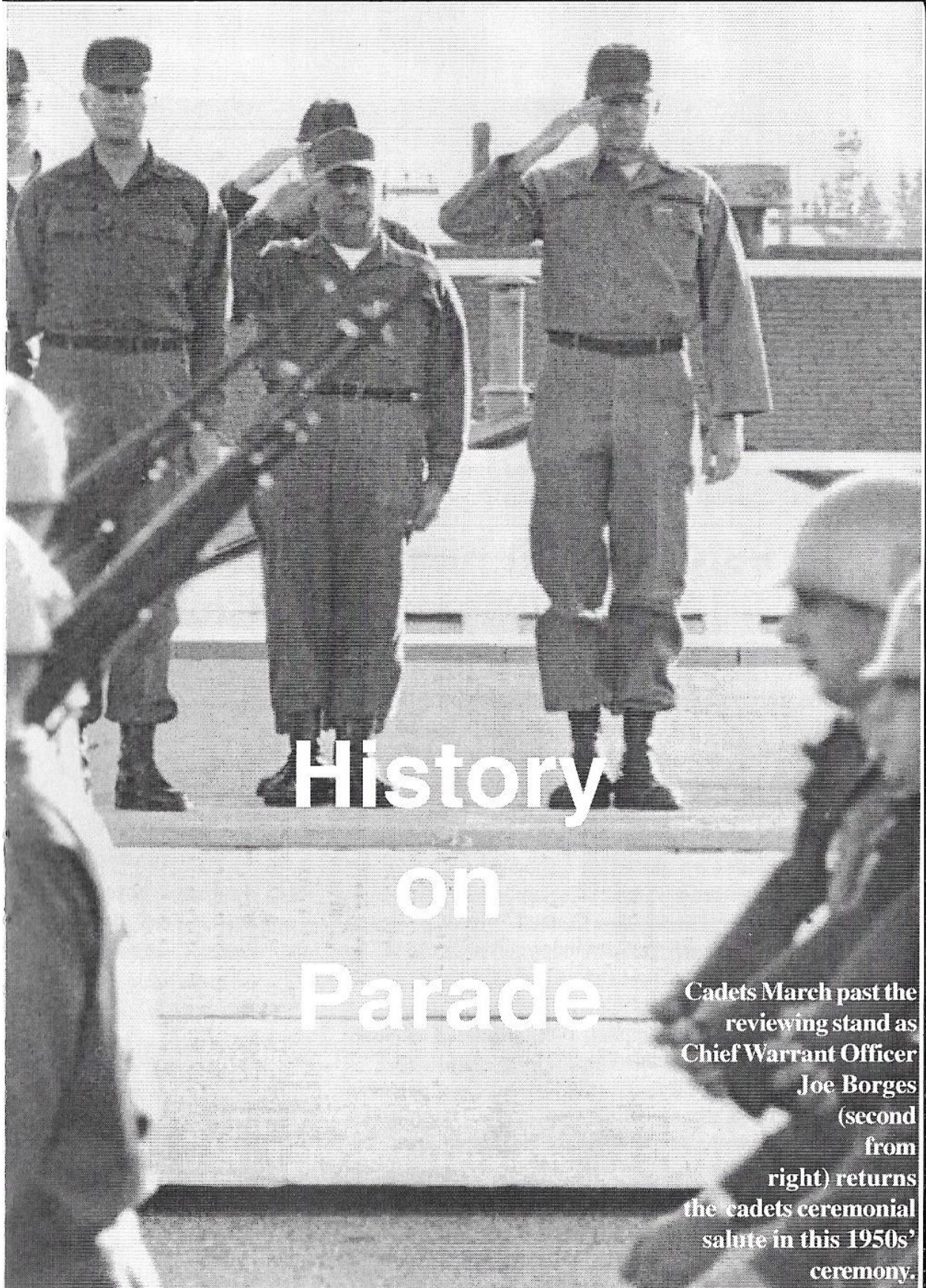
Invocation
Keynote Speaker
Officer Candidate Response
Introduction of Official Party
Distinguished OCS Graduate Awards
Presentation of OCS Diplomas and
Commissioning Certificates
Presentation of Company Level
Pre-Command Course Diplomas
Presentation of Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course
Diplomas
Oath of Office
Benediction

DEMONSTRATIONS



**We Salute our Distinguished Guests
and Today's Official Party, family,
friends, and Central Coast
Residents**

**An unidentified
Officer stands
next to
Warrant Officer
Joe Borges
(right) during a
1950s Officer
Candidate
Graduation
Ceremony**

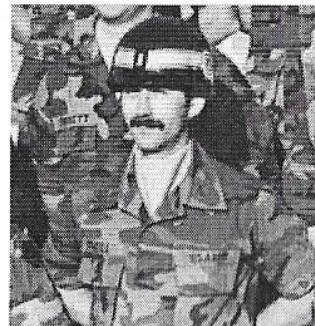


History on Parade

Cadets March past the reviewing stand as Chief Warrant Officer Joe Borges (second from right) returns the cadets ceremonial salute in this 1950s' ceremony.

It was 1951 when Maj. Gen. Curtis D. O'Sullivan, commander of the California National Guard's 49th Infantry Division, acted upon a vision to create a state-operated Officer Candidate Program. O'Sullivan's intent: build an officer training program that equaled or exceeded the standards of Ft. Benning Georgia. For the next four decades, the California National Guard churned out officers that could withstand the pace of military operations, remain collected and focused under tremendous pressure, and never forget their motto: "We take care of our own."

At the turn of the century, that motto continues to motivate and fuel the dedicated service of more than 10,000 officers that have graduated from the California National Guard's Officer Candidate training pro-



History: High Standards Remain in Aftermath of Change

gram. Each officer leaves with a vow to take care of the troops under them by preparing them for the rigors of war and state missions, and ensuring that their troops are cared for administratively and logistically.

In 1951, Officer Candidate School (OCS) program blossomed into a one of the Army's most respected institutions. It nurtured the leadership skills of many future California's leaders, including Maj. Gen. Robert Thrasher, The Adjutant General from 1987 through 1992, Brig. Gen. John Alexander, currently acting The Adjutant General, and Brig. Gen. William Wade III, the incoming adjutant general. One famous California television and movie star, Tom Selleck of Magnum P.I. fame, also attended the CMA.

The first soldiers entering the California National Guard's OCS program at Camp San Luis Obispo were from both the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve. Then in 1961, the school was modified in accordance with the Ft. Benning's, U.S. Army Infan-

Top photo: A young 1Lt. Robert O'Neill-- now Col. Robert O'Neill, project director for the Leadership Graduation Ceremonies--served as both a TAC and Cadet Company Commander for CMA. Bottom photo: NBC Anchor Tom Brokaw meets with members of the 223rd Regiment (Combat Arms) in Afghanistan.



The California Military Academy attracted the state's top officers, enlisted personnel, and warrant officers to teach, advise, and counsel cadets from 1960 through 1996, including this 1983 staff. First row: Capt. Dennis Banowetz, 2Lt. Mary Chan, 1Lt. Robert O'Neill, Capt. Mary Wiseman. Second row: 2Lt. Shashi Dawn, 2Lt. Michael Pluckett, and Capt. Ed Anderson. Third Row: 2nd Lt. Rich Bradley, 2nd Lt. Donald Ballard; 1st Lt. Pete Kutch, and 2Lt. Michael Baldwin.

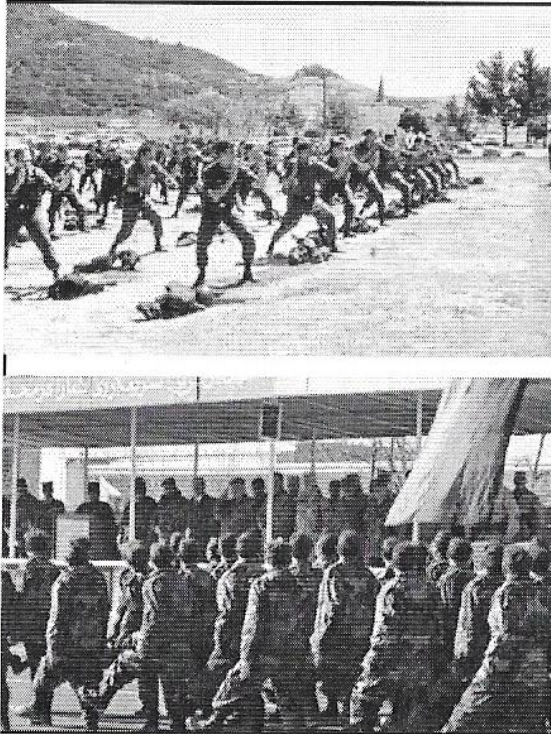
try School's "Program of Instruction--or POI," and its name changed to the California Military Academy (CMA). The POI was published to ensure that all U.S. Army Officer Candidate Schools trained to the same standards.

For the next 35 years, the term CMA would be synonymous with the original OCS program. The program attracted the state's top officers, enlisted personnel, and warrant officers to teach,

advise, and counsel cadets as well as a host of memorable leaders and alumni. Chief Warrant Officer-4 Joe Borges spent nearly 36 years overseeing the administration and organization of the CMA. Affectionally referred to as, "MR. CMA," two of Borges' sons, Eugene and Joey, would graduate from the CMA in '74 and '75 respectively.

Borges retired from the CMA in 1987.

That same year, State Military Academies nationwide were re-designated as Regional Training Institutes and incorporated into the "Total Army School System" commonly known as TASS. Each of the Academy's was allowed to select a historical regiment that best represented the spirit of the State and the school. The Academy became the 223rd Infantry Regiment based on to its historical affiliation with the 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized), and its dis-



California Military Academy Cadets practice riot training in the 70s. More than three decades later, the Academy's organizational decedents, the 223rd Infantry Training, Advising, and Counseling soldiers deployed to Kubal Military Training Center, Afghanistan, earning several individual honors, including four Bronze Stars, seven Meritorious Service Medals, eight Army Commendation Medals, 14 Combat Infantry Badges, and five Combat Action Badges

tinguished accolades during the Korean War. During the Korean War, three of its soldiers received the Congressional Medal of Honor, two of which were received in the same battle, a rare occurrence since only one other regiment within the Army National Guard can claim this in their lineage.

The name has changed, but the school's quality and standards remain high as it begins its new chapters in a new century. In 2004, the U.S. Army activated the school's cadre to train the Afghanistan Army. The 223rd's cadre Training, Advising, and Counseling (TAC) staff deployed July 22, 2004 to Kabul, Afghanistan where they are attached to the Training Assistance Group (TAG III). The 223rd has helped accelerate the training of qualified soldiers, NCOs, and officers from the Kabul Military Training Center. The 223rd helped more than 10,000 Afghan soldiers graduate, instilling new pride in the country's military. Two of the 223rd's own were promoted to Sergeant Majors, and earned several awards and decorations, including four Bronze Stars, seven Meritori-

ous Service Medals, eight Army Commendation Medals, 14 Combat Infantry Badges, and five Combat Action Badges.

This year marks the 54th year of the State of California Officer Candidate Program. The academy's name have changed, the missions expanded, but the tradition of excellence continues. The 223rd Regiment continues to accomplish its most important mission: *training and leading soldiers*. It's proudest tradition, "taking care of soldiers," continues to echo through time.