

At Camden Military Academy one often hears the term, "The Camden Experience." Those of us who use it, instinctively know what it means because we ourselves have had the experience, being at the Academy for some time. The primary question, however, is what does it mean to a new cadet? First, it means living away from family and friends, often for the first time. It means wearing a uniform instead of the "cool threads" he is used to. It means getting up and going to bed earlier than he wants to. A new cadet must learn the military system and military drill. He must find a place for himself in his company and learn his role well. He must learn to follow orders without resentment and to give them respectfully. Through this process he gains self-confidence, self-control, self-respect, and the ability to see himself and others as cooperative

members of a group working for a common purpose. He begins to appreciate his worthiness and his group's achievement of their goals. He begins to take pride in himself, in his uniform, his company, and his battalion. When the drums roll and the trumpets sound, his steps grow lighter. He learns to value the friends he has made at the Academy, friends he will have for life. He has learned lessons that many do not learn in a lifetime. He has become one of a select group of thousands of alumni who have gone on to great success because of





their "Camden Experience."



- Devon Hajek of Chandler, Arizona, and his father moving back into Charlie Co. during registration.
- 2. Cadet Davis Lord striking a pose.
- 3. Cadet LTC John Puhl returns to CMA for his sixth straight year. However, this time as the BC.
- 4. Cadets Gary Miller and SFC Newton welcome new cadets to Bravo Company.
- 5. New Cadet Tyler Giordano of Longs, South Carolina, on his first day at Camden.
- 6. Cadet Max Bryan and his parents at the cadet store.
- 7. Admissions Director, Casey Robinson, and school secretary, Kathy Sherrill, discuss paperwork during registration.