

## **GENERAL KEITH B. ALEXANDER**

### **US Army, Retired**



GEN Alexander, the MI Corps' only four-star general, graduated from the US Military Academy in 1974 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Armor. His first experience in the Military Intelligence field was as the S4 and Border Field Office Commander in the 511<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion, 66<sup>th</sup> MI Group, in Germany. In between advanced educational opportunities, he commanded at the company, battalion, and brigade levels, and served as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G2, of the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division during Operation DESERT STORM.

In the mid-1990s, while leading the Army Intelligence Initiatives Group, GEN Alexander built the digital battlefield visualization concept for enhanced situational awareness and planning. He later stood up the capability in the XVIII

Airborne Corps and expanded it further while serving as the Deputy Director for Intelligence, J2, for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Throughout the late 1990s, GEN Alexander served as the J2 for US Central Command, providing predictive analysis on actions related to Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, and the al Qaeda terrorist organization. In March 2001, he assumed command of the US Army Intelligence and Security Command and steered its considerable efforts in Southwest Asia following 9/11. Appointed the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, G2, in 2003, GEN Alexander directed the initial Joint Operational Capability-Iraq (JIOC-I) that evolved into the Distributed Common Ground System-Army (DCGS-A), the all-source database automated system for processing and exploiting information for intelligence production.

His active military service culminated in his simultaneous assignments as the Director, National Security Agency (NSA), and Commander, US Cyber Command. GEN Alexander's focus on enterprise architecture and advanced analysis markedly improved the processing, analyzing, sharing, and utilization of information for and by decision makers. During a time of rapid technological convergence, he led the NSA and interagency efforts in identifying major threats to critical systems and establishing effective network defense. His leadership was invaluable in forging and implementing the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative and in the strengthening of collaborative ties between the Departments of Defense, Justice, and Homeland Security, the Intelligence Community, and private sector. Finally, one of GEN Alexander's most enduring contributions was the establishment of the US Cyber Command, charged with defending the nation by planning, coordinating, conducting operations and defending the Nation and Department of Defense networks in cyberspace.

GEN Alexander retired in April 2014 after a 40-year career as one of the Army Intelligence's greatest leaders. His military awards and badges include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Army Distinguished Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Superior Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Senior Parachutist Badge and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army Staff, US Cyber Command, and National Security Agency Identification Badges.

GEN Alexander was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2016. He is also the recipient of the 2016 US Military Academy Distinguished Graduate Award, given to graduates whose character, distinguished service, and stature draw wholesome comparison to the qualities for which West Point strives, in keeping with its motto: "Duty, Honor, Country."