

## **COLONEL RICHARD E. ALLENBAUGH**

### **US Army, Retired**



COL Allenbaugh received his commission through the Army ROTC at Ohio University as a Field Artillery Officer in 1970. He began service to the MI Corps in 1973 upon his transfer from Artillery to the MI Branch. His first major contribution was organizing and commanding the Army's first Opposing Force (OPFOR) Company modeled after a Soviet Motorized Rifle Company. He was later deployed to Fort Irwin, California, where he became involved in the OPFOR unit that was key to the later success of the National Training Center and the ensuing training of most of the Army's combat forces.

In mid-career, COL Allenbaugh began the first of four assignments to XVIII Airborne Corps. As G2 Training Officer, he planned and designed the Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) Readiness Facility with links to the National Security Agency (NSA) and deployed units.

This proved invaluable for language training as well as the collection of operational SIGINT. As Executive Officer of the 519<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion, 525<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade, he deployed to Grenada on Operation URGENT FURY. Later, as the 525<sup>th</sup>'s S3, he task organized and coordinated the deployment of the 224<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion (Aerial Exploitation) to Honduras for Operation QUALITY DRAGON, which continued for five years. He visualized a concept where the unit's Guardrail aircraft operated out of Honduras while the intelligence processing remained at Hunter Army Air Field in Georgia. As a direct result of COL Allenbaugh's actions, the 525<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade received the coveted NSA Director's Trophy as the best SIGINT unit in all of the Department of Defense in 1987. Later, as Commander of the 519<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion (Tactical Exploitation), he continued his forward thinking by developing new doctrine and training for his battalion in areas that were adopted for inclusion army-wide by the US Army Intelligence Center and School.

COL Allenbaugh's next assignment was as G2, 82d Airborne Division, where he parachuted into combat for Operation JUST CAUSE in Panama. He was instrumental in the Division's success through his outstanding intelligence preparation of commanders and staff.

After the Army War College and assignment as Deputy G2, XVIII Airborne Corps, COL Allenbaugh commanded the 504<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade, III Corps, at Fort Hood, Texas. Highlights of his command tour from 1992-1994 included the transition of Guardrail V to the Improved Guardrail, retirement of the OV-1D Mohawk aircraft, the first employment of

the All Source Analysis System, reorganization of the brigade to permit rapid deployment support for III Corps units, and incorporation of the aligned MI Battalion (Tactical Exploitation), US Army Reserve. His next assignment was on the Army Staff where he revamped the Army Intelligence Master Plan (AIMP) and was instrumental in MI organizational changes stemming from lessons learned in Operation DESERT STORM. COL Allenbaugh then returned to Fort Bragg as G2, XVIII Airborne Corps. He retired from the Army in 1997.

COL Allenbaugh was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002. He served as the Honorary Colonel of the Corps from 2006 to 2012 and is currently a Distinguished Member of the Corps.