COLONEL KURUSH (KB) BHARUCHA-REID
US Army (Deceased)

COL Kurush Bharucha-Reid, fondly known as “KB”, enlisted in the Army under the Special Forces enlistment option in 1973. His skill at leading Soldiers and training foreign armies in small-unit weapons and special operations tactics resulted in rapid promotion to Sergeant First Class. In 1983, KB was selected to attend Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in Military Intelligence.

In 1984, KB returned to the Republic of Korea (ROK) to serve as Chief of the Combined Liaison Team, 501st MI Brigade, US Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM). KB expertly led this one-of-kind special operations organization which provided total immersion training to a small team of ROK assets capable of performing sensitive and high-risk intelligence collection missions in the event of major military hostilities on the Korean Peninsula.

KB Reid receives an Army Commendation Medal, 1981
In 1987 then CPT Bharucha-Reid was selected for membership into the Military Intelligence Excepted Career Program (GREAT SKILL) and, for the next 23 years, pursued the most challenging and sensitive Army MI assignments. He served as Regional Desk Officer and Special Assistant for Military Affairs for a national-level intelligence agency with focus on East Asian and Near East operations, commander of a Defense Human Intelligence (HUMINT) Service base in Bosnia, and Director of Current Operations of a Tier 1 Special Mission Unit. During this latter assignment he deployed to Bosnia again as CJ2 for Combined Joint Task Force Fervent Archer. In 2002, KB returned to the US to stand up and command a sensitive HUMINT collection detachment under the Defense HUMINT Service and deployed to Afghanistan as the first HUMINT case officer assigned to provide direct support to the US Special Operations Command. KB deployed again to Afghanistan in 2004 as the Commander of a Defense HUMINT base that conducted critical HUMINT activities during surge operations to support Afghanistan's first democratic elections.
Beginning in 2005, KB deployed to Iraq as a Senior HUMINT Advisor in a sensitive inter-agency coordination cell. He returned to the US later that year to serve as Chief of the Military Group and Senior Department of Defense Instructor at a prestigious inter-agency strategic intelligence training institution. In May 2009, KB assumed command of the US Army Field Support Center (AFSC). It was during this assignment that KB lost his brave fight against pancreatic cancer. He was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery on 9 September 2010.

In October 2011, the Defense Intelligence Agency’s (DIA’s) Contingency Operating

Assumption of Command of the US Army Field Support Activity, May 2009
Base location in Kabul, Afghanistan, was renamed Camp K.B. Reid in honor of COL Reid's memory; and in 2012, the newly established DIA training facility in Norfolk, Virginia, was dedicated as the Reid Center. Although both are now closed, they illustrate the impact KB had on the Intelligence Community.

In February 2014, the HUMINT Training Joint Center of Excellence established an Honor Graduate Program to recognize outstanding student performance in both the Source Operations Course and the Defense Advanced Tradecraft Course. Selected Army Soldiers and civilians are now awarded the COL Kurush Bharucha-Reid Award for Excellence in HUMINT Tradecraft.

COL Bharucha-Reid's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, and the Ranger, Special Forces, Pathfinder, Master Parachutist, and Military Free Fall Jump Master badges.

COL Bharucha-Reid was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2014.