

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES A. CHAMBERS
US Army, Retired



LTC James Chambers entered the Army as a Private in April 1955, spending nearly four years as an enlisted soldier. After studying Polish at the Army Language School, he attended the US Military Academy Preparatory School and was assigned to the 1st Infantry Regiment at West Point. In 1958 he attended the Infantry Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was assigned to the 507th US Army Security Agency (ASA) Group, Germany, where he served as a Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, and Company Commander. In 1960, he assumed command of the 12th Radio Research Unit in Bad Tolz, Germany.

After attending the Advanced Officer Course and Special Forces Officer Course, LTC Chambers was assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to command the 403^d ASA Special Operations Detachment (SOD), 7th Special Forces Group (SFG). He then deployed to the Dominican Republic in support of combat operations in 1965. Upon returning to the 7th SFG, he served as the Executive Officer, Detachment B5, and then in succession as the S3, S2, and S1 of a C Team.

Assigned to the 5th SFG in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) in 1966, he served as the Assistant Group S2, followed by assignment as the S2 of Project Delta. Following his first tour in Vietnam, he served as a Communications Intelligence Staff Officer at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). In 1968, he returned to Vietnam with the 4th Infantry

Division, initially as Assistant G3 and Assistant G2, followed by assignment as the Commander, 4th MI Detachment. In 1969, he returned to Fort Bragg where he commanded the 82nd MI Detachment, 82nd Airborne Division, until his selection for the Command and General Staff College. In 1971, he moved to the US Army Intelligence Center and School (USAICS) Doctrine and Literature Division. He was the principal author for Field Manual (FM) 30-5, *Combat Intelligence*, the capstone intelligence manual, and FM 34-1, *Intelligence Operations*.

Upon retiring from the US Army in 1975, LTC Chambers served as an Army Civilian contributing to the writing of several important MI doctrine, training manuals, and training circulars to assist MI's reorganization and transition to Combat Electronic Warfare Intelligence (CEWI) organizations. In 1982, he was the key author of MI's first Intelligence and Electronic Warfare Mission Area Analysis. This extensive study of the tactical intelligence mission area served as the basis for the acquisition of numerous crucial future systems including the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System, All-Source Analysis System, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, various manned aerial collection systems, as well as ground systems such as Prophet. From 1977-1997, LTC (Ret) Chambers was the Activity Career Program Manager for the Civilian Intelligence Personnel Management System and its predecessor playing a critical role in the development of all civilian intelligence personnel management systems and training programs at Fort Huachuca.

Ultimately, no single person did more than Jim Chambers to implement and promote the establishment of the Military Intelligence Corps under the Army's Regimental System. One of his longest lasting contributions to the MI Corps was the establishment of the MI Corps Hall of Fame (HoF) program. His many past actions brought the HoF from a humble beginning to the inspirational program that is now the standard.

LTC Chambers was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2006.