

## **COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR CLIFFORD L. CHARRON** **US Army, Retired (Deceased)**



CSM Charron enlisted in the Army in 1943. He served in combat in the European Theater with the 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the 4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division from 1943 to 1945. Following several stateside assignments, he was assigned to the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Japan in June 1949. He served with the division in combat in Korea until he was transferred to the Joint Military Advisory Group, Japan, in September 1950, where he served until the end of the Korean War.

In 1953, CSM Charron switched from combat arms to Military Intelligence and served in a variety of key intelligence assignments, particularly with the US Army Security Agency (USASA), in Europe and the United States. These included Senior Intelligence Analyst at Headquarters, USASA, in Frankfurt, Germany; Operations Sergeant, 320<sup>th</sup> ASA Battalion during the Lebanese unrest; Staff Sergeant,

USASA Research and Development Division; Sergeant Major of Detachment 4, Sinop, Turkey; Operations Sergeant, Assistant Chief of Staff G3, Headquarters, USASA, and Command Sergeant Major of USASA from 1966 to 1969.

His concern for the morale and esprit de corps of his soldiers was manifested in his involvement in two major projects. CSM Charron was instrumental in the founding of the Army Security Agency Benefit Association, which provided funds and education benefits to families of USASA members killed in the line of duty. He was also a key figure in the planning, designing, and construction of the permanent memorial honoring USASA noncommissioned officers killed in action. This memorial is located at US Army Intelligence and Security Command Headquarters, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

CSM Charron retired on 24 July 1969. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Army Commendation Medal (4 Oak Leaf Clusters).

CSM Charron was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1989. He passed away on 12 October 2002.