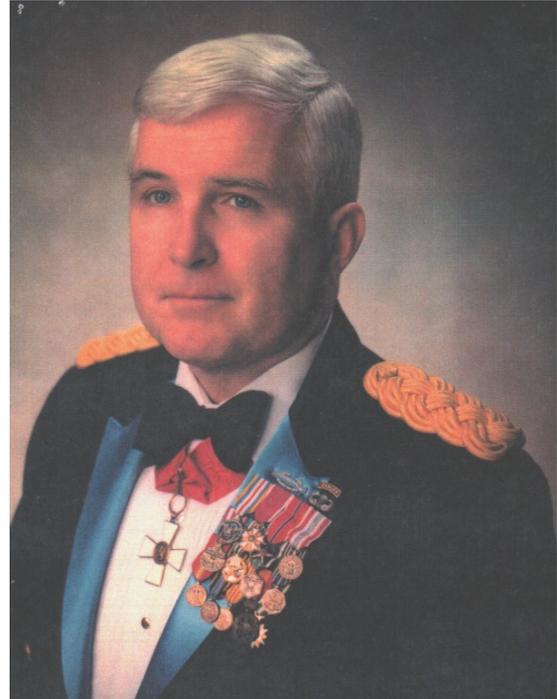


COLONEL JOHN F. CONCANNON III **US Army, Retired (Deceased)**

Upon graduation from the US Military Academy in 1965, COL Concannon was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in Military Intelligence (MI). His West Point class was the first to have the opportunity to select MI as their basic branch. He then graduated from Ranger School and was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division for a two-year detail in the US and the Republic of Vietnam. While in Vietnam, he served as the Intelligence Officer (S2), 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry. During his tour of duty, he participated in a number of ground combat operations, including Operations GADSDEN, CEDAR FALLS, and JUNCTION CITY. Upon completion of his combat arms detail, COL Concannon was reassigned to Company A, 519th MI Battalion, as Assistant Chief, Translation Branch, Combined Document and Exploitation Center, J2, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.



Following service in the Joint US Military Mission for Aid to Turkey, COL Concannon commanded the 2nd MI Detachment, 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. He subsequently served as Assistant Professor and Chief, Russian Language Instructional Group, Department of Foreign Languages, US Military Academy. COL Concannon graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College in 1981.

After three years as a Military Attaché in Helsinki, Finland, COL Concannon moved to the Defense Attaché Office in Moscow. In 1987, he returned to Washington as Chief, Warsaw Pact Division, US Army Intelligence and Threat Analysis Center. He was the principal MI leader responsible for production of the multi-volume Soviet Battlefield Development Plan, the Land Armament Manpower Model, and most importantly, the in-depth analyses of the Soviet Theater of Strategic Operations. His efforts in developing these documents significantly influenced strategic policy formulation at the highest levels. After graduating from the Army War College in 1989, COL Concannon became the Defense and Army Attaché and US Defense Representative in Hungary. Following several more overseas assignments, he joined the Defense Intelligence Agency's Office of the Inspector General.

During his MI assignments, COL Concannon became the Army's premier expert on Soviet politico-military affairs. His efforts had immeasurable impact throughout the Department of Defense. He was the principal intelligence officer responsible to a task force operating under the Army Chief of Staff to develop guidance and direction to

improve national defense. COL Concannon's recommendations were accepted by the task force and incorporated into the National Strategy Review, the Defense Management Review, and revisions of the National Military Strategy. His expert knowledge of the effects of a rapidly changing strategic environment on the future structure of the Army enabled him to provide direction and guidance to strategic and operational studies on how to posture the Army for the future.

COL Concannon's contributions to national intelligence were equally impressive. He was the Army's lead on the Defense Intelligence Agency's study on the correlation of forces opposite the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and was instrumental in defining the threat and subsequent NATO conventional and theater nuclear force options. The European strategic balance and the consequent NATO and Army strategic and operational responses were driven to a significant degree by COL Concannon's efforts. He was able to bring to conclusion a wide variety of plans, policies, and recommendations supporting NATO's correlation of forces strategy and incorporate them into intelligence requirements to support both deterrence and warfighting operations. During a succession of attaché assignments, his information collection initiatives were immeasurable.

COL Concannon retired from active duty in 1995 after 30 years of service. During that time, he remained at the forefront of Army Intelligence by successfully grappling with, and framing, the Soviet/Russian strategic challenges that faced the Army. His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, as well as foreign awards from Vietnam, Finland, and Hungary. Shortly before retirement, he was inducted into the Defense Intelligence Agency's Attaché Hall of Fame.

COL Concannon was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 1999. He passed away on 18 March 2015.