

MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS J. FLYNN

US Army, Retired



MG Flynn distinguished himself through exceptional, meritorious and loyal service to the United States Army and the Military Intelligence (MI) Corps in his 35-year career. Upon graduation from the University of Toronto in June 1952, he enlisted as a Private the same year. He received his commission in Infantry from Officers' Candidate School in 1954.

During his career, MG Flynn served at a variety of overseas and stateside locations, including Korea, Germany, Japan, and a combat tour in Vietnam. In 1965, he was selected to command the 79th Special Operations Unit at Shemya, Alaska. Following that tour, he was assigned as a Policy Staff Officer to the Army Combat Development Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

In 1969, MG Flynn graduated from the US Army Command and General Staff College and was selected to serve as the Chief of the Support Division, Electronic Intelligence Center, US Pacific Command, Fuchu, Japan. Between 1971 and 1973, he commanded the 175th Radio Research Unit at Bien Hoa, Vietnam, and completed a tour as the Military Secretary, Communications-Electronic Directorate (J6), Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After attending the Air War College in 1974, MG Flynn completed successive tours as the Operations Officer, Deputy Commander, and Commander at Field Station Augsburg, Germany. He returned to the United States in June 1978 to become the Executive to the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, US Army.

In July 1979, after being promoted to Brigadier General, Flynn was assigned as the Deputy Commander Intelligence, US Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM). In December 1981, he was reassigned as a Special Assistant to the Director for Operations, and Deputy Chief, Central Security Service in July 1982. He served as Chief of Staff, National Security Agency (NSA), from June 1985 until February 1988. In these roles, he positively influenced a number of major intelligence programs sponsored by both organizations. As the Deputy Commanding General for Intelligence, MG Flynn was a principal architect in the overall operational success of INSCOM through an unprecedented transition and growth period. As the Assistant Deputy Director for Operations at NSA, MG Flynn provided outstanding management and guidance for the US Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) system. As the NSA Chief of Staff, he provided superb

leadership and staff support to the Director and Deputy Director, and brokered and resolved controversial staff issues that touched every facet of NSA's mission.

MG Flynn retired from the Army in 1987 and was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 1988.



BG Thomas Flynn (left) with LTC Thiessen (right)