

## CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FIVE MICHAEL FRIED US Army, Retired



CW5 Michael Fried was born in 1934 in Koenigsberg, Germany. In 1939, while fleeing from Nazi persecution, his family was captured and sent to a concentration camp where they spent the next five and a half years until liberated in 1945. At age 12, his family immigrated to the United States, and he enlisted in the United States Army in 1955.

CW5 Fried's first assignment was with the 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division where, due to his German language fluency, he was recruited by Military Intelligence. He began his duties in Fulda, Germany, where he served as an Interrogator until 1961. From 1961 to 1969, CW5 Fried served as an expert linguist in the Army Security Agency at Fort Meade, Maryland, Frankfurt, Germany, and Herzo Base, Germany.

In 1969 CW5 Fried was appointed as a Warrant Officer and after completion of the Vietnamese Language Course was assigned to Vietnam where he served from May 1970 to May 1971 as a Prisoner of War Interrogation Technician and Company Administrative Officer. Assigned to Fort Bragg from June 1971 to December 1973, CW5 Fried served as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division's Prisoner of War Team Chief ensuring that the soldiers of the Division were trained in Resistance to Interrogation. He also served as the Company Administrative Officer. From December 1973 to December 1976 while stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, CW5 Fried served as Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of the Division Prisoner of War facility, ensuring timely dissemination of intelligence vital to the conduct of numerous tactical operations.

Upon completion of the Warrant Officer Senior Course at Fort Rucker, Alabama in 1977, CW5 Fried returned to Germany where he served as Chief, Border Operations Officer in Frankfurt until July 1980. During this time, CW5 Fried participated in many operations to include the debriefing of the DoD affiliated returnees from Iran at Frankfurt/Main, Germany. For the next ten years, July 1980 to January 1990, CW5 Fried held positions as Interrogation Team Chief and Assistant S1 109<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion (CEWI), Fort Lewis; Border Liaison Officer, 511<sup>th</sup> MI Troop, 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fulda, Germany; and Personnel Administration Center OIC of the 109<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion, Fort Lewis.

After completing the Master Warrant Officer Course, CW5 Fried was assigned to the 18<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion, 66<sup>th</sup> MI Group, Munich, Germany from March 1990 to April 1992. As the Assistant Battalion Collection Manager, he coordinated source acquisition, debriefing activities, and all operational matters key to battalion debriefing activities of a number of very highly knowledgeable sources. From December 1990 to April 1992, CW5 Fried served as the Transition Cell OIC for the 18<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion responsible for the relocation and reorganization of the 18<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion and three companies of personnel and equipment from Munich to Augsburg, Germany. CW5 Fried returned to Fort Lewis, where he was stationed from May 1992 to January 1995. He first served as the Battalion Personnel Technician, 502<sup>nd</sup> MI Battalion and then as the Assistant Brigade S1, 201<sup>st</sup> MI Brigade. Returning to Augsburg, Germany, CW5 Fried served as the Assistant Group S1, 66<sup>th</sup> MI Group.

CW5 Fried retired from the Army in October 1996 with 41 years and 7 months of active service. He also served 1 year, 11 months and 19 days in the New York National Guard prior to coming on active duty. CW5 Fried continued to serve as a full-time volunteer in the S1 Section, 201<sup>st</sup> MI Brigade at Fort Lewis.

CW5 (Ret) Fried's awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (5 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal, and Good Conduct Medal (4<sup>th</sup> Award).

CW5 Fried was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2001. He served as the Honorary Chief Warrant Officer of the Corps from 2001-2007 and is currently a Distinguished Member of the Corps.