

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT A. HARDING

US Army, Retired



MG Robert A. Harding is a native of New York City, New York and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant from Officer Candidate School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia in 1969. In his first assignment, 2LT Harding served as an Intelligence Research Officer with the 108th Military Intelligence (MI) Group based at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. Soon thereafter, he reported to Korea, where then CPT Harding commanded the Field Office for the 502nd MI Battalion from 1971 to 1972. During the following year, he served as a Team Leader, first with the 14th MI Battalion, then with the 519th MI Battalion located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Commanding for a second time, CPT Harding was in charge of Headquarters Company, 1st MI Battalion, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

In early 1975, CPT Harding was assigned as a Strategic Intelligence Officer to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) where he served until 1978 when he was sent overseas to Germany. CPT Harding served first as the S2 of the 1-59th Air Defense Artillery, 8th Infantry Division and then as the S2 for the 1st Brigade, 8th Infantry Division. Returning stateside, MAJ Harding was assigned as the Professional Development Officer, US Army Military Personnel Center, in Alexandria, Virginia. Two years later, MAJ Harding reported in as a student to the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia. Upon graduation, MAJ Harding assumed the duties of Executive Officer, US Army Intelligence Operations, in Washington, DC. In 1985, MAJ Harding served for two and half years as the Assistant to the Director of the Army Staff, in the Pentagon.

LTC Harding was selected to command the 524th MI Battalion, Eighth US Army in Korea from 1988-1990. Returning from Korea, LTC Harding attended the US Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. From 1991 to 1992, COL Harding served as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, US Army Intelligence and Security Command, at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Selected for brigade command, COL Harding commanded the 902^d MI Group located at Fort Meade, Maryland, for the next two years. After successful brigade command, COL Harding was assigned as the Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, US Army in the Pentagon.

In 1995, COL Harding reported to Quarry Heights, Panama and served as the Director of Intelligence (J2) for the US Southern Command, where he led the planning and

execution of intelligence support to military operations, including contingency planning and crisis actions. Upon completing his duties as the J2, BG Harding returned to the DIA as the Director for Operations from 1996 to 2000. BG Harding was promoted to Major General in 1999. MG Harding's final assignment was as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, US Army, Washington, D.C. MG Harding concluded his distinguished Army Intelligence career of 32 years when he retired in 2001.

MG Harding's awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters), and Army Staff Identification Badge.

MG Harding was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 2009.