

## **MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM E. HARMON**

### **US Army, Retired**



MG William E. Harmon was commissioned as an Infantry Second Lieutenant in the summer of 1960 and reported for the Infantry Officer Basic Course at Fort Benning, Georgia. Serving less than two years in the Infantry, in 1962 2LT Harmon was detailed to Army Intelligence. He received training at the Intelligence Research Officer Course, US Army Intelligence School at Fort Holabird, Maryland. While at Fort Holabird, he transferred to the newly formed Army Intelligence and Security Branch.

His first MI field assignment was in 1963 as a Counterintelligence Officer with the 201<sup>st</sup> MI Detachment, I Corps Group Headquarters at Uijongbu, Korea. One year later, CPT Harmon returned to the US and served as the G2 Security and Automation Officer assigned to the 11<sup>th</sup> MI Detachment, 11<sup>th</sup> Air Assault Division

at Fort Benning, Georgia, during the Army field testing of the Air Assault Concept. In 1965 CPT Harmon reported as the Plans Officer, 519<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion to plan the movement of the 525<sup>th</sup> MI Group to Vietnam. In Vietnam, he was the Counterintelligence Officer for Detachment C-5 (Project Horse) attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group. CPT Harmon returned to Fort Holabird in 1967 to attend the MI Officer Advanced Course and was then assigned to Korea Desk at the Office of the G2, Fort Shafter, Hawaii, and then reassigned to the Vietnam Desk following the Tet Offensive.

MAJ Harmon returned to Vietnam and served in the Current Intelligence Branch, III Corps Desk, J2, US Military Assistance Command Vietnam. In 1970 MAJ Harmon attended the US Army Command and General Staff College, and after graduation reported to the British Intelligence Staff in London, England to study the Soviets. After three years in England, MAJ Harmon assumed command of the 203<sup>rd</sup> MI Detachment, III Corps at Fort Hood Texas. Following command in 1976, he became the G2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division, at Fort Hood, Texas. In 1977, LTC Harmon assumed command of the 522<sup>nd</sup> MI Battalion (Combat Electronic Warfare and Intelligence [CEWI]) in support of 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division. Following battalion command, LTC Harmon attended the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Graduating from the War College, COL Harmon became the Director, Signal Intelligence Division, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, US Army. For one year he would serve in the Pentagon before returning in 1980 to Fort Bragg to become the XVIII Airborne Corps Deputy G2. In 1981, COL Harmon was selected for brigade command and was handed the colors of the 525<sup>th</sup> MI Group (CEWI), XVIII Airborne Corps. He would command the Group for two and half years. In 1983, COL Harmon became the Director, Intelligence Systems Directorate, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, US Army.

From 1984 until 1990, BG Harmon was the Program Manager, Joint Tactical Fusion Program Management Office, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, US Army. His final assignment was as the Program Executive Officer for Command and Control Systems, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. MG William Harmon retired in 1992 after a distinguished career spanning 32 years.

MG Harmon's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab and the Army Staff Identification Medal.

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