

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR RANDOLPH HOLLINGSWORTH

US Army, Retired



A native of Duplin County, North Carolina, CSM Randolph Hollingsworth enlisted in the US Army after graduating from high school. He completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Holabird, Maryland, earning a Military Occupational Specialty 96D, Imagery Interpreter. After graduation, CSM Hollingsworth received assignment orders to the Republic of Vietnam.

CSM Hollingsworth served three combat tours with the 73rd Surveillance Aircraft Company (SAC) in Vietnam. The first was as a Specialist in the imagery section. Then as a Sergeant, he became the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of the Imagery Interpretation Section for the 73rd SAC while stationed in Long Thanh. He also served as the Intelligence NCO for testing and evaluation of

the new YO-3A Silent Surveillance Aircraft, which was a key asset in stopping the Viet Cong's nighttime movement in the IV Corps area of operations. Additionally, he developed a plan that successfully used the Tactical Imagery Interpretation Facility (TIFF), a computer-driven imagery intelligence and analysis system.

After a tour at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, CSM Hollingsworth arrived in Germany for his next assignment with the 3rd Armored Division. The Division G2, then LTC George Walker, personally selected Hollingsworth to develop the Division Air Reconnaissance Section. CSM Hollingsworth used his expertise as an Imagery Interpreter to build the G2 Air Section in V Corps. The Corps G2 then asked that he assist the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment S2 in the preparation of the Regimental Defense and the positioning of MI assets in response to Warsaw Pact units. CSM Hollingsworth implemented his plan in 90 days.

Back at Fort Bragg again, CSM Hollingsworth served as both the Imagery Detachment Sergeant and the Operations and Training NCO for the 525th MI Group. After a tour as a recruiter in Akron, Ohio, CSM Hollingsworth became the Photographic Interpretation Center Strategic Branch Chief in the Republic of Korea. He then went to the US Army Intelligence Center and School at Fort Huachuca, Arizona to serve as an Instructor for the Officers Basic and Advanced Courses, as well as the Foreign Officers Course. As a First Sergeant and then Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Training Battalion, he developed a new system for the 96B and 96D courses. He was then personally selected to serve as the G2 Sergeant Major for the 6th Infantry Division (Light). In June 1993, he

returned to Fort Huachuca to become the 111th MI Brigade Command Sergeant Major. His last assignment was as Command Sergeant Major of USAIC and Ft. Huachuca. CSM Hollingsworth retired in 1998.

CSM Hollingsworth's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), and the Army Achievement Medal.

CSM Hollingsworth was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 2001.



