

MR. HERBERT S. HOVEY, JR.
US Army, Retired (Deceased)



Mr. Herbert S. Hovey was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army in 1957. He served on active duty for two years with the Signal Corps and with the US Army Security Agency (ASA). Upon completion of his military service in 1959, he joined the ASA in a civilian capacity as a Project Engineer. During the next ten years, Mr. Hovey personally directed development and fielding of initial and follow-on airborne radio direction finding (ARDF) systems. Beginning in 1961-1962, with equipment mounted in U-6 and U-8 aircraft, he pursued a path of technology and system development which provided the Army with such systems as LAFFING EAGLE, LEFT BANK, QUICK FIX, and GUARDRAIL. It was his work in these years that resulted in his being commonly referred to as a leader in, if not the father of, Army ARDF. During this time he also assisted in the development and fielding in Southeast Asia of such ground-based systems as the AN/TRQ-23, the AN/TRD-15, and specially configured versions of the AN/PRD-5 and the AN/PRD-6.

In 1970, Mr. Hovey was selected to be the Deputy Chief of Staff for Research and Development of Headquarters, ASA. During the later 1970s and early 1980s, he directed the refinement of equipment and systems he had earlier developed and fielded. He also guided the research, development and acquisition effort to support the Army's intelligence and electronic warfare requirements. His efforts resulted in the fielding of systems such as the TRAILBLAZER, TACJAM, and QUICK FIX.

In 1976, Mr. Hovey became the Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development and Acquisition (DCSRDA) of the US Army Intelligence and Security Command, the successor to ASA. In 1977, the DCSRDA became the US Army Signals Warfare Laboratory, an element of the newly formed Electronics Research and Development Command. Mr. Hovey's organization moved to Vint Hill Farms Station, Virginia, and ultimately became the US Army Communications-Electronic Command Center for Signals Warfare. Mr. Hovey served as Director of the organization from its activation in 1977 until his retirement in 1990.

Mr. Hovey is acknowledged both in the United States and throughout the world as a leader in the development of modern-day Signals Intelligence and Electronic Warfare (SIGINT/EW) equipment and systems. He made vital contributions to the accomplishment of the US Army's and other tactical and strategic missions during the

Vietnam era and throughout the extended Cold War period, in Grenada and Panama, and finally in the Gulf War. His efforts dramatically improved the conduct of SIGINT/EW and resulted in greatly increasing the capabilities of Combat Electronic Warfare Intelligence organizations in the field.

Mr. Hovey was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1991. Shortly thereafter, he was quoted as saying, "You know, war is a 'come-as-you-are' sort of thing and DESERT STORM really affirmed that those systems were in place. Normally you spend the early part of the war trying to catch up to what is needed. In this case, military intelligence was a key factor to the war. No war is good, but thank God, the equipment was there and we could do our job quickly and have the war over."

Mr. Hovey passed away in April 2004.