

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR DAVID P. KLEHN US Army, Retired



CSM Klehn entered the US Army as an Infantryman in April 1961. He served as an Automatic Rifleman, Team Leader, and Squad Leader in the 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Benning, Georgia. In January 1963, he joined Special Forces and served as a Radio Operator, Communications Chief, Platoon Sergeant, and First Sergeant in Special Forces units at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Vietnam; and the Panama Canal Zone.

In 1972, CSM Klehn began his Military Intelligence (MI) career as a Counterintelligence Agent in the 11th MI Group in Columbia, South Carolina. From 1973 to 1976, he was assigned to the 9th MI Company at Fort Lewis, Washington; and from 1978 to 1980, he was assigned to the 165th MI Battalion in Frankfurt, Germany.

In November 1979, because of his Special Forces experience, he was selected to debrief two of the first 13 hostages released from the US Embassy in Tehran, Iran. The debriefings were to gather intelligence for the rescue mission of the other hostages. Through these assignments he quickly gained a reputation for conducting Sensitive Area Vulnerability Analysis assessments throughout the Army and, in particular, sensitive units in US Army, Europe and Seventh Army.

From 1980 to 1984, CSM Klehn served as the Sergeant Major of the Counterintelligence/Signal Security Support Battalion, 902^d MI Group at the Presidio of San Francisco. While there, he served as a member of an operations security evaluation team under the direction of Headquarters, Department of the Army. He received his first Legion of Merit for his performance during this assignment.

CSM Klehn served successive tours as the Command Sergeant Major of 2nd School Battalion at Fort Huachuca from 1984 to 1986; the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade in Munich, Germany, from 1986 to 1989; and ultimately the US Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca from 1989 to 1991. CSM Klehn was the second Sergeant Major of the Military Intelligence Corps. Upon his retirement in 1991, he was presented his second award of the Legion of Merit for 30 years of dedicated military service.

CSM Klehn was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1994 and served as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the Corps from 1994 to 2000. He is currently a Distinguished Member of the MI Corps.