

LIEUTENANT COLONEL KENNETH T. KOEBER US Army, Retired (Deceased)



LTC Koerber enlisted in the Army in 1941 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in September 1942. From 1949 to 1951, as Commander, 2nd Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) Detachment, he developed innovative training used during maneuvers and combat in Korea that directly improved security in combat divisions. At the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, he coordinated and established a lexicon of Korean words for use by interrogators. These words had North Korean pronunciations or accents distinctly different from those used in South Korea. This technique greatly aided the detection of North Korean line crossers and spies.

In 1951, then MAJ Koerber commanded the 210th CIC Detachment, X Corps. He implemented a system that provided Corps special agents to Divisional CIC Detachments to facilitate forward movements. In July 1951, he was reassigned to Headquarters 441st CIC in Japan. There he participated in a special covert mission providing security for Japan's Prime Minister during his travels to and from the San Francisco Peace Treaty Conference. In December 1951, MAJ Koerber was assigned as Operations Officer, 441st CIC Detachment and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in November of 1952.

After retirement, he resumed his career as a Civilian in the Office of the G2, Army Forces Far East. LTC Koerber then served for five years in the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence at the Department of the Army, where he was responsible for counterintelligence (CI) operations and policies. In 1970, he was selected by the 500th MI Group commander to be the Officer-in-Charge of the group's unilateral collection detachment in the Far East. In 1972, LTC Koerber became the Operations Officer, Detachment N, 500th MI Group and later Director of Operations when the 500th returned to Japan. These assignments involved control of document exploitation, human intelligence collection, technical intelligence, and counterintelligence operations. Using these sources, and as a direct extension of the mutual CI/Foreign Operation Intelligence support, he approved and refined Target Analysis Packets to support FOI specialists for briefing, assessing and developing clandestine agents.

LTC Koerber retired in 1983, with just five days less than 42 years of federal (12 years military and 30 years of civilian) service. His military awards include the Bronze Star (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Ribbon, the Combat Infantry Badge, the European, Africa and Middle East Medal with three battle stars, the World War II Victory

Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Germany and Japan), the Korean Service Medal with five battle stars, and the United Nations Service Medal. In his civilian career, he twice received the Army's highest decoration for Meritorious Civilian Service, and two letters of appreciation from J. Edgar Hoover, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

LTC Koeber was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 1994. He passed away in 1995.