

## **CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FIVE MICHAEL J. MARONEY** **US Army, Retired**



CW5 Maroney enlisted in the Army in 1970 and attended Basic Training at Fort Dix, New Jersey. In 1971, CPL Maroney graduated as a Special Agent from the Counterintelligence (CI) Course at Fort Holabird, Maryland, and then attended the Korean and German language courses at the Defense Language Institute in Anacostia, Virginia. Having a gift for languages, he graduated at the top of his German language class and was then promoted to Sergeant.

SGT Maroney proceeded to his first operational assignment with the 165<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion in Frankfurt, Germany. There, he performed counter-subversion and counterespionage duties that involved sensitive source operations targeted against dissident groups who were opposed to the US Government and the Vietnam War. He

concluded his tour of duty as the primary Liaison Officer between the 165<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion and the Frankfurt/Main Criminal Police, an extraordinary responsibility for such a young soldier.

In 1974, SGT Maroney transferred to the US Military Liaison Mission where he was highly successful in conducting compartmented Human Intelligence (HUMINT) collection operations against the Soviet Union, also an extraordinary accomplishment for a young soldier who had not yet received formal training to conduct these high-risk source operations. Maroney was promoted to Staff Sergeant and returned to the US where he graduated from the Military Operations Training Course that qualified him as a HUMINT Area Intelligence (AI) Specialist, also commonly referred to as Case Officer.

While serving as the Far East Regional Desk Officer for the US Army's Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM), SSG Maroney was promoted to Warrant Officer. He then attended the Defense Language Institute's Russian Language Course, graduating in 1980. He was sent to Munich, West Germany, to work as a Case Officer for the US Army Operational Group (USAOG). After promotion to Chief Warrant Officer Three, he joined the Great Skill Program and conducted highly productive sensitive source operations in coordination with the Central Intelligence Agency.

In 1987, CW3 Maroney earned a Masters of Arts Degree in Political Science/International Relations from the University of Rhode Island. He was then assigned as a Case Officer to Operations Company, USAOG in the Fort Meade area and continued to perform the most sensitive, high-risk and aggressive HUMINT source operations ever conducted by that organization. In 1989, he was promoted to Chief

Warrant Officer Four and was transferred to the Army's premier training course under the US Army Foreign Counterintelligence Activity (USAFCA) in the Fort Meade area where he served as a principle instructor in the area of foreign counterintelligence investigations and operations. He was selected by INSCOM to conduct an extensive review of several compromised MI source operations in Europe. He subsequently developed an innovative strategy to help deter the collection efforts of hostile intelligence services that is still being used today.

In 1990, CW4 Maroney returned to Germany to work as a Case Officer. He was hand-picked to deploy to Saudi Arabia to support Operations DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM where he established and managed US Central Command's Offensive Counterintelligence Operations. In 1992, he transferred to Berlin before attending the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy.

In 1994, he went to Fort Huachuca to serve as the Senior Military Instructor for the Collection Branch, Tactical HUMINT Committee, 309<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion. He was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Five in 1995. During his last six years in the Army, CW5 Maroney made his greatest contributions to the MI Corps by updating and presenting CI/HUMINT training curriculum and, most importantly, sharing his vast knowledge and experience with hundreds of young soldiers whom he instructed and mentored. During this assignment, CW5 Maroney was tasked by the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence at the Department of the Army to provide one-on-one HUMINT training to several flag officers that included the Commander in Chief, US Army Europe/Commander, Stabilization Forces and several Task Force Eagle commanding generals. While he traveled to Bosnia on numerous occasions to train these senior leaders, he always made an extra effort to train all deployed Tactical HUMINT Teams, who greatly benefited from his insights and expertise.

CW5 Maroney retired from Active Duty in 2001. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002.