

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERT W. NOONAN, JR.
US Army, Retired



LTG Noonan's career spanned 35 years and included a progressively challenging list of assignments available to a commissioned officer in Military Intelligence. He was commissioned from the Reserve Officers Training Corps in 1968 at the University of Notre Dame. His initial assignment was as an Intelligence and Operations Advisor, IV Corps, in Vietnam. He then served as a Basic Training Company Commander at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, before assignment as the Brigade S2, 1st Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany. LTG Noonan attended the MI Officer Advanced Course, and then served as Company Commander at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, with subsequent assignments as a Plans Officer and Manpower Management Analyst. His next assignment took him to 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, as Division Artillery S2, Company

Commander, and Deputy Division G2.

LTG Noonan's next duty was assignment as a Tactical Intelligence Officer with the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force and US Central Command before selection as Battalion Commander, 125th MI Battalion and G2, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. LTG Noonan then became Deputy Chief and Division Chief, Intelligence and Electronic Warfare/Command and Control Countermeasures, Department of the Army, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations. He followed this assignment by serving as Executive Officer to the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence (DCS, G-2).

He then assumed command of the 513th MI Brigade, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Under his command, more than 1,400 Soldiers in four battalions were transformed into a deployable, trained and ready force. He provided forward, multi-discipline intelligence support to major joint exercises and to joint and combined operations in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and to the United Nations and joint operations in Somalia. During his command, the four battalions received national recognition as Department of Defense Intelligence Collector of the Year and Army Tactical Signals Intelligence Unit of the Year. Also during this time, LTG Noonan successfully planned, coordinated and executed the

movement of the 513th MI Brigade Headquarters and three battalions from separate sites on the east coast to Fort Gordon, Georgia.

He was subsequently selected as Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, US Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM). At this assignment, he oversaw the refocusing of the command to a force projection Army, the demands of the Unified Commands and the downsizing and restructuring of INSCOM to meet the Army's and National Intelligence future requirements. He sharpened INSCOM's focus on tactical and operational support to Warfighters around the world. He was instrumental in the successful deployment of the Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle to Albania in support of Balkan contingency operations. His vision to translate concepts rapidly into operational capabilities was the singular reason for INSCOM's success in providing fused intelligence support and resources to joint and combined operations.

LTG Noonan's next assignment was as Director for Intelligence, J2, US Central Command (CENTCOM). He ensured CENTCOM received the best multi-disciplined, fused intelligence products and predictive analysis during the execution of SOUTHERN WATCH, DESERT STRIKE, DESERT THUNDER and Maritime Intercept Operations. His keen insights and in-depth analysis on Iraqi activities earned him an impeccable reputation and the trust of Congress, the State Department and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His next assignment was commander of INSCOM. His leadership led to the refinement and enhancement of national and tactical Signal Intelligence (SIGINT) partnerships that significantly increased operational readiness and provided seamless SIGINT support to operations in Bosnia and Kosovo.

LTG Noonan's final assignment was as Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Washington, DC, from 2000-2002. From this post, he was the forerunner for transforming Army intelligence to support future Warfighters. His visionary concepts of providing ground forces with accurate, fused, predictable intelligence from space to mud were fully integrated into intelligence policies, programs and budgets. Following the events of 11 September 2001, LTG Noonan was the vanguard in providing analysis, vision, leadership and support to Department of Defense, National Agencies, Combatant Commanders and Army leaders during the fight against Global Terrorism and during the Iraqi crisis. He contributed immeasurably to the National Security Strategy by his precise and often diplomatic dealings with 27 embassies in Washington, DC. His efforts with military attachés and ambassadors greatly strengthened Secretary of State policy positions.

LTG Noonan retired from active duty in 2003. His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (3 Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (3 Oak Leaf Clusters) and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star for Valor. He is also authorized to wear the Army Staff Identification Badge, Air Assault and Parachutist Badges.

LTG Noonan was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2004.