

COLONEL SETH F. NOTTINGHAM **US Army (Deceased)**



COL Nottingham's 26-year career clearly impacted the evolution of Military Intelligence. He played a key role in the development of the deep attack cell at III Corps that evolved into the Army's deep operations philosophy of the late 1990s. While serving as the Director of Combat Development at the US Army Intelligence Center, COL Nottingham was instrumental in developing numerous projects to assist warfighting commanders, including INTEL XXI, the future design of the entire intelligence force, and the Military Intelligence Functional Assessment.

Early in his career, COL Nottingham served as a Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) Watch Officer at the US Army Security Agency (ASA) Field Station, Udorn, Thailand, where he established benchmarks for other Watch Officers to follow by assuming new duties for which no precedent had been

established and rapidly defining his functions under broad mission guidance. Based on his performance, he was selected to command two operational detachments, earning him praise from intelligence agencies at the national level for maintaining high-quality intelligence products while dismantling his detachment.

His next assignments included SIGINT Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 504th ASA Group; Chief of the ASA Tactical Support Element and then Operations Officer, 374th ASA Company; and Assistant S4 and SIGINT Officer, 66th MI Group. In 1982, COL Nottingham came to Fort Huachuca as the Electronic Warfare (EW) System Test Officer. Shortly thereafter, he became the Assistant TRADOC Systems Manager. He returned to Germany in 1985 as S3 for the 14th Signal Regiment of the British Army.

His following assignment was as G2 Operations Officer, HHC, III Corps, at Fort Hood, Texas. As a Major, he established the G2 Force Modernization Branch including a database of information and management tools. He then became Executive Officer of the 522nd MI Battalion, 2nd Armored Division and then S3 of the 504th MI Brigade. COL Nottingham revised the Mission Essential Task List and integrated the newest intelligence and communications equipment into the unit.

COL Nottingham next took command of the 501st MI Battalion in Germany. He furnished the intelligence electronic warfare, long range surveillance and deception support to the 1st Armored Division. Further, he deployed his battalion to Southwest Asia for combat during Operation DESERT STORM. While there, he led his battalion 500 kilometers through the desert, the only MI battalion able to keep up with the ground forces. He trained and integrated 45 Kuwaiti civilian linguists and technicians into his battalion and simultaneously conducted real-world counterintelligence and SIGINT analysis. During and following the war, COL Nottingham supervised the interrogation of thousands of enemy prisoners-of-war, as well as the debriefing of hundreds of refugees.

COL Nottingham's next assignments were as Intelligence Plans and Training Officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence (Germany) and then Deputy G2 for Plans and Operations for the III Corps. In this latter assignment, he became the senior intelligence planner and operator in the October 1994 crisis in the Gulf, deploying and synchronizing all intelligence activities for III Corps. Additionally, his efforts in Exercise United Endeavor, the first ever Battle Command Training Program documented/controlled joint exercise, proved the power of Army intelligence in supporting both component and joint Warfighters.

COL Nottingham last assignment was as the US Army Intelligence Center's Director of Combat Development at Fort Huachuca. He was responsible for the development of future Warfighting concepts, like INTEL XXI, as well as early Information Operations doctrine and an MI Functional Area Assessment for the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. It was while serving in this position that COL Nottingham passed away in December 1996.

COL Nottingham's awards and decorations include the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (four oak leaf clusters), the Meritorious Service Medal (silver oak leaf cluster), the Legion of Merit (awarded posthumously), the Bronze Star Medal, and the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal. He was also a recipient of the MI Corps Association's Knowlton Award.

COL Nottingham was posthumously inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 1998.