

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FIVE WALLY PRICE

US Army, Retired



A native of Oregon, CW5 Wally Price began his Army career in 1966 with the Army Security Agency (ASA). Following attendance at Defense Language Institute (DLI) for Czech language training and Advanced Individual Training at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, he was assigned to Detachment J, 16th ASA Field Station, Mt. Schneeberg, Germany. He separated from the Army in 1970 after providing intelligence support for US Army Europe and NATO commands during the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia. In 1975, Price returned to active duty, and was assigned as a Czech Technical Language Advisor at DLI, where he worked with native instructors to provide training in military occupational specialty-related military and technical terminology.

In 1976, Price was appointed as a Warrant Officer, returned to Germany, and served as a Watch Supervisor overseeing operations at the US Army Field Station, Augsburg, Germany. He achieved certification by the National Security Agency (NSA) as a Voice and Language Analyst and became proficient in three languages: Czech, Russian and German. CW5 Price returned to DLI in 1980 for advanced language training in Czech. After graduating with honors, he remained as a Training Officer in the Slavic Language Group until 1981. Heading to Fort Devens, Massachusetts, CW5 Price became the Chief Instructor and Officer-In-Charge of the Cryptologic Linguist Task Force. CW5 Price returned to Germany in 1983 and served on the task force responsible for transitioning the Augsburg Field Station to the 701st MI Brigade.

Returning from Germany to Fort Meade, CW5 Price served as the Senior Technician and Deputy Branch Chief, Operations Group A, NSA. During Operations DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM, he served as a Team Lead, directing Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) operations in the Cryptologic Support Group at Central Command Forward Headquarters in Saudi Arabia. In 1992, he became the Deputy Chief, Exploitation and Production, at Menwith Hill Station, England. CW5 Price helped lead Support to Military Operations (SMO) efforts for Operations PROVIDE COMFORT, NORTHERN and SOUTHERN WATCH in Southwest Asia, and in support of NATO operations in the Balkans.

CW5 Price returned to Fort Meade in 1993 as the Team Chief and NSA Representative to the National Military Command Center, where he helped establish the Cryptologic

Support Team and Cryptologic Support Group at the National Military Joint Intelligence Center. In 1995, CW5 Price transferred to the 344th MI Battalion at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas as the Officer-in-Charge of 98G (Voice Interceptor) training, overseeing all Army SIGINT/Electronic Warfare (EW) linguist training. In 1997, he was selected as Senior Technical Advisor in the Army Technical Control and Analysis Element to the 704th MI Brigade.

Following the 11 September 2001 attacks and onset of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, CW5 Price helped create the first US-Canadian SIGINT/EW Operations Coordination Center in Afghanistan. In 2003, CW5 Price served as the Special Assistant for Military Affairs to the SIGINT Director, NSA.

CW5 Price retired from the US Army in 2005 after 35 years of distinguished service. He then began a civilian career at Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) in the Army Cryptologic Operations Office at Fort Meade.

CW5 Price's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Services Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.

CW5 Price was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 2009.

