

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FOUR DENNIS RENKEN
US Army, Retired
Department of Army Civilian, Retired



CW4 Dennis Renken enlisted in the Army Security Agency in 1972 and became an Intelligence Analyst (MOS 96B) in 1980. CW4 Renken was appointed as a Warrant Officer, Order of Battle (OB) Technician (MOS 964A) in 1981 and graduated from the Postgraduate Intelligence Program (PGIP) as the distinguished graduate in 1982. He is believed to be the first US Army Warrant Officer to graduate from PGIP.

In 1982, CW4 Renken supervised the Latin American team in the XVIII Corps' All-Source Intelligence Center (ASIC) and led the All-Source Analysis Team that deployed to Grenada with the XVIII Airborne Corps Tactical Operations Center for Operation URGENT FURY. CW4 Renken then became the Assistant Army Attaché and Operations Coordinator in the US Defense Attaché Office in

Damascus, Syria, in 1984. ADM William J. Crowe, Jr., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, commended him for his reporting during one of the regional crises. He received the prestigious Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) Exceptional Intelligence Collector Award from William J. Casey as well as the Defense Superior Service Medal for his contributions during his tour of duty in Syria.

CW4 Renken was assigned as the All-Source Analysis Technician for the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) at Fort Bragg in 1986. He deployed as a Liaison Officer to Joint Task Force (JTF) South (Panama) in May 1989, and then served with distinction in Operation JUST CAUSE in December 1989. Throughout this period, he was the JSOC subject matter expert on adversary military and paramilitary forces' OB and targeting, with intensive focus on Latin America and the Middle East.

In 1990, CW4 Renken became the Chief of the Analytical Support Element of 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta (Airborne)—also known as Delta Force. This position was highly selective and previously filled only by field grade officers. During Operation DESERT STORM, CW4 Renken was the unit's Senior Analyst and leader of the deployed analytical cell, as well as the Assistant S2.

CW4 Renken next served as an All-Source Analysis Technician to the G2, Allied Command Europe (ACE) Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC), in Rheindahlen, Germany, in 1994. The ARRC deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina and CW4 Renken was instrumental in preparing for the attachment of 11 National Intelligence Cells from the Allies, including the Deployable Intelligence Support Element from the 66th MI Brigade. In 1996, CW4 Renken moved to the US Army Intelligence Center and School at Fort Huachuca as the Senior MI Warrant Officer Course Manager. He retired in July 1997 after 25 years of service.

In 1997, Dennis Renken began his second career as a Department of the Army Civilian Intelligence Analyst working in the US Central Command (CENTCOM) Branch, J2, JSOC. Promoted in 2000, CW4 Renken assumed duties as the Chief of the Branch providing direct support to Special Operations forces by supporting several classified missions. As the senior analyst covering the CENTCOM region on 11 September 2001, CW4 Renken was selected as the Senior Analyst on a Joint Special Operations Task Force that deployed to the CENTCOM area of operations in 2001. He earned the Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award for his service from 11 September 2001 to 17 October 2002.

CW4 Renken continued to lead the CENTCOM Branch and directed the largest Interagency Crisis Action Center in the history of JSOC. He planned and directed all-source analysis, including preparation and presentation of studies, target packages, briefings, and oral presentations in support of the planning for Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, and then deployed with Joint Special Operations Task Force 20 to the CENTCOM Theater at the onset of hostilities. He served as the Senior Analyst and assisted Special Operations forces by supporting a number of successful direct-action missions—including the recovery of US military personnel held captive by Iraqi forces. For his contributions to Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, he received the Army Superior Civilian Service Medal. Shortly thereafter, CW4 Renken retired from government service.

CW4 Renken's military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, three awards of the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal, two awards of the Joint Service Commendation Medal, two awards of the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, three awards of the Good Conduct Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal, two awards of the National Defense Service Medal, two awards of the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Humanitarian Services Medal, four awards of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, four awards of the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Saudi Arabian Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the NATO Medal, and the US and German Parachute badges. His civilian awards include the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Armed Forces Civilian Service Medal, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, and the Director of Central Intelligence Exceptional Intelligence Collector Award.

CW4 Renken was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 2005.