

## COLONEL WILLIAM TORPEY

### US Army, Retired



COL William Torpey was commissioned as a Military Intelligence (MI) officer after graduating from Officer Candidate School in 1970. Immediately upon completing the MI Officer Basic Course, LT Torpey was assigned to the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Baumholder, Germany, in the first wave of MI Officers assigned as S2s to combat maneuver units in Europe. He served three highly successful years as an Armor Battalion and Infantry Brigade S2.

Upon return from Europe, LT Torpey served as an Instructor and Company Commander at the Army Intelligence School, Fort Devens. After completion of the MI Officer Advance Course, CPT Torpey was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Korea, where he commanded the 329<sup>th</sup> Army Security

Agency (ASA) Company, providing multidiscipline intelligence collection along the Demilitarized Zone. In 1979, CPT Torpey was assigned to Fort Meade as an Operations Officer, Battalion Executive Officer and S3 of the 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade. As the Operations Officer for the newly established Army Collection, Processing, Analysis and Reporting (CPAR) element at the National Security Agency, he was responsible for coordinating national agency support to tactical forces. This was one of MI's first successful reach-back operations.

In 1984, MAJ Torpey returned to Germany where he served as the Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) Officer, 66<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade, responsible for synchronizing theater IMINT force structure and imagery support to US ground forces. He later served as Executive Officer, 204<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion and as the Commander, 108<sup>th</sup> MI Battalion, deployed along the East German border.

LTC Torpey was assigned to Fort Leavenworth in 1989 as the Intel Observer Controller in the Battle Command Training Program and as an Instructor in the Tactical Commanders Development Course where he advanced the Intelligence Battlefield Operating System.

In 1991, LTC Torpey assumed the position of MI Branch Chief on the heels of the first Gulf War when the Army's Officer Corps was reduced by 33 percent. He and his management team implemented efficiencies, preserved force structure, and established positive rapport with the field to sustain an aggressive MI career development program.

COL Torpey was selected as the Defense Attaché to Ireland in 1994, where he spearheaded efforts to modernize a neutral country's defense force, promoted bi-lateral training opportunities and contributed to Ireland's participation in Partnership for Peace. In 1998, COL Torpey concluded his distinguished 30 year career as the Deputy Commander of the US Army Intelligence and Security Command.

COL Torpey's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (3 Oak Leaf Clusters), Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star and the Army Service Ribbon. He is a graduate of the US Army Airborne and Ranger Schools.

COL Torpey was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 2011.