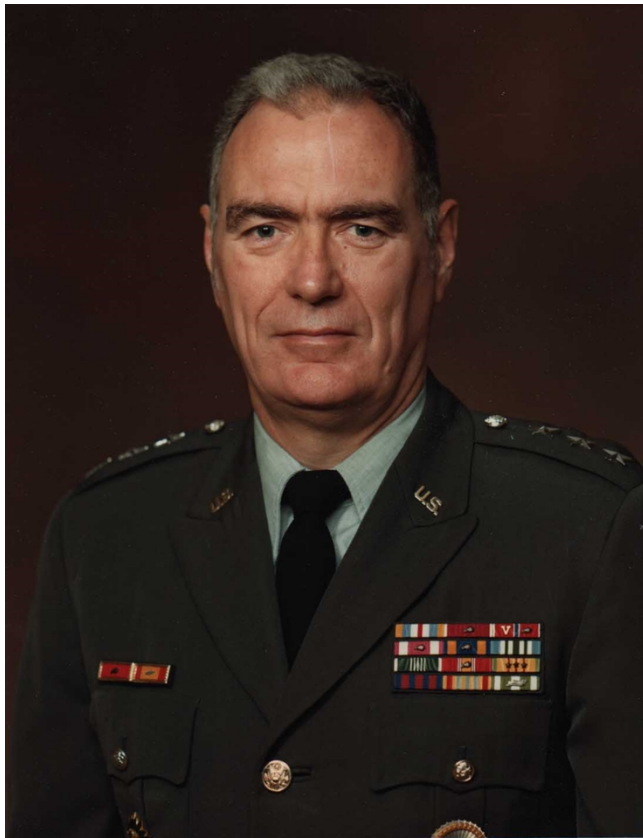


## LIEUTENANT GENERAL JAMES A. WILLIAMS US Army, Retired (Deceased)



LTG Williams, the first Honorary Colonel of the MI Corps, served a long and distinguished career as an intelligence officer that culminated as Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA).

James Williams attended the US Military Academy at West Point, graduating in 1954, and was commissioned in Air Defense Artillery (ADA). His first two assignments were with ADA battalions.

In early 1957, Williams embarked on his intelligence career, attending the Army Intelligence School at Fort Holabird, Maryland. He was assigned to the 470<sup>th</sup> and 471<sup>st</sup> Counter Intelligence Corps Detachments in the Panama Canal Zone and Puerto Rico, respectively.

After attending the Artillery Officers Career Course, Williams was assigned to Sandia Base, New Mexico, as a Security Inspector. He attended the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, from 1964 to 1965 and stayed on there as the Project Intelligence Officer for the Tactical Area and Surveillance study (TARS 75).

In January 1966, Williams attended the Defense Intelligence School before becoming the Assistant Army Attaché in Caracas, Venezuela in June of that year. He then commanded the 1<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion (Provisional), 525<sup>th</sup> MI Group, Vietnam from 1969 to 1970 and then served in the Officer of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations, US Army.

In 1971, LTG Williams attended the National War College. Upon graduation, he was named Director of Political/Military Affairs, Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, at the State Department. In 1974, he became the Chief, Counterintelligence and Collection Division, for the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence (ACSI). Six months later, he took command of the 650<sup>th</sup> MI Group (Counterintelligence), at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Belgium.

Returning to the United States in July 1976, Williams became the Chief, Missile Forces/Strategic Arms Limitation Branch, Soviet/Warsaw Pact Division, at DIA. In 1977, he was named Deputy Director for Estimates, DIA. Earning the rank of general officer in

1980, he was named Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, US Army, Europe. A year later, pinning on his third star, he served as the Director, DIA.

LTG Williams' awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Bronze Star (V Device and 1 Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

LTG Williams was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1987 and assumed the position as Honorary Colonel during MI Corps activation ceremonies on 1 July 1987 at Fort Huachuca. He served in that position until 1990 and continued to serve as a Distinguished Member of the Corps until his death in October 2017.



**MG Julius Parker, the first Chief of the MI Corps, with LTG James Williams, the first Honorary Colonel of the MI Corps, CSM Robert Retter, the first Sergeant Major of the Corps, and CSM George Howell, the first Honorary Sergeant Major of the Corps, on 1 July 1987, at the MI Corps Activation Ceremony on Fort Huachuca.**