

**MR. ROBERT J. WINCHESTER**  
**Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service, Retired**



After graduating from the University of Paris, La Sorbonne, and Kings College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Robert Winchester was drafted into the US Army and served as an Intelligence Analyst with the 199<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Division (Air Mobile) in Vietnam. His intelligence skills and leadership earned him rapid promotion to Staff Sergeant before his honorable discharge in 1971.

Returning to his educational pursuits, Mr. Winchester earned Master's degrees in European Studies from Illinois State University and the College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium, as well as a Law Degree from Temple University.

In 1977, Mr. Winchester began a seven-year tenure with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) where he served in positions of increasing responsibility culminating as the Assistant General Counsel to the Operations Law Division and Chief of Liaison to the US

House of Representatives. His accomplishments with the CIA were numerous. Of particular interest to Army MI, he played a pivotal role in the enactment of public law prohibiting exposure of covert agents wherever they are stationed.

Beginning in 1984 until his retirement in 2010, Mr. Winchester was the appointed Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs to the Secretary of the Army, providing support to sensitive investigations and Special Access Programs. He served as the Legislative Counsel to the Army Leadership; the Army G2, and the Commanding Generals of both the US Army Intelligence Center of Excellence and the Intelligence and Security Command.

For 26 years, Mr. Winchester served as the personal liaison between the Department of the Army and the US Congress, resulting in successful and long-lasting support for MI Soldiers around the world. As the voice of Army MI in the US Congress, Mr. Winchester avidly supported congressional oversight of the US Intelligence Community and promoted proactive interaction to keep oversight committees fully and currently informed of Army MI capabilities and requirements. He often took members of Congress to view first-hand the value of intelligence missions to national security and the stellar quality of MI Soldiers and officers in the field. Mr. Winchester's avid advocacy of Army

HUMINT led directly to the establishment of a strong base of vital intelligence capabilities, for which he was honored with the Intelligence Community's National Intelligence Medal of Achievement in 1993.

In summarizing Mr. Winchester's contributions to the MI Corps, nominator LTG Richard Zahner, US Army (Retired), stated, "Mr. Winchester's unique combination of intellect, experience, and leadership produced results and impact equaled by very few members of our Army MI community. His fingerprints are found on virtually every system, project, program, and innovation within Army MI over the period from 1984-2010. More importantly, he was the foundation of Army MI's outreach to the Congress and caused pure magic to happen time after time in terms of gaining Congressional support, addressing possible contention quickly, and telling the Army MI story with clarity, context, energy, and humor."

Mr. Winchester's awards include the SES Special Achievement Award, Presidential Rank Award-Meritorious Executive, National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, Army Exceptional Civilian Service Medal, National Intelligence Medal of Achievement, the Secretary of the Army Decoration for Exceptional Service, Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Knowlton Award.

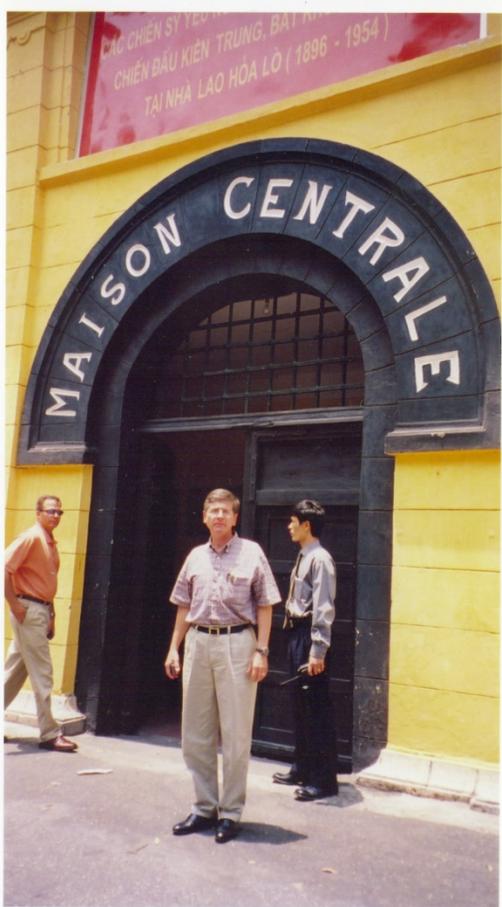
Mr. Winchester was chosen for induction into the Hall of Fame in 2013.



**Bob and his buddies in Vietnam, 1970**



**Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Staff Delegation to Jordan/Mideast**



**House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Congressional Delegation to North Vietnam**



**With LTG Zahner at Retirement Ceremony, 2010**