

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

COLONEL RICHARD J. BLAKE

Colonel Blake was born in Richmond, California on 28 June 1929. He attended the University of California at Berkeley, receiving his AB in 1952 and an MA in Diplomatic History in 1954 from that university.

From 1948 to 1953, he was an enlisted member of Battery B, 629th FA Battalion, CA ARNG. He attended, and successfully completed in June 1953, the 49th Infantry Division (CA ARNG) OCS #2 from which he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the CA ARNG.

In January 1954, he enlisted in the Active US Army, receiving 16 weeks of basic training at Fort Ord, CA, and then was assigned to the 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC. Here, he was promoted to private first class, and then corporal, before entering the Field Artillery OCS at Fort Sill, Oklahoma in January 1955.

In June 1955, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery and was assigned as a tactical officer at the Artillery OCS.

His subsequent stateside assignments include: troop duty at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; ARADCOM, where he commanded a Nike-Hercules Missile Battery at Brea, California; Artillery Tactics Instructor, Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; student at Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS; and Strategic Planner, ODCSLOG, HQ DA for three years.

Overseas tours include assignments as: Aide-de-Camp to Chief, MAAG Pakistan; troop duty in Germany; RF Advisor in South Vietnam; NATO (Land Army HQ Southern Europe, Verona, Italy); and Battalion Commander, 6th Battalion, 37th FA, 2d Infantry Division, Korea.

On 15 July 1976, COL Blake was assigned to HQ, Sixth US Army, ODCST, as Chief of Unit Training Division.

On 31 August 1978, he was assigned Deputy Chief of Staff, Training, HQ, Sixth US Army.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Bronze Star
Meritorious Service Medal w/1 Oakleaf Cluster
Air Medal
Army Commandation Medal w/1 Oakleaf Cluster
Good Conduct Medal
Vietnam Service Medal w/2 Battle Stars

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
Vietnam Campaign Medal
Vietnam Cross of Gallantry
Combat Infantryman's Badge
Parachutist Badge