

Colonel Benjamin B. Flathers (Class 45-42)

Colonel Flathers enlisted in the U.S. Army in June 1942 and became a recruiting and induction enlisted man for the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area. He was selected for OCS and graduated from the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on December 31, 1942. He reported for his first duty assignment as an officer to the 76th Field Artillery Brigade, Fort Lewis, Washington on January 14, 1943.

He later shipped off to Bristol, England and was part of the 5th Corps of the U.S. 1st Army during WW II, arriving in France on D-Day plus 3. In 1945 he was wounded near Gottingen, Germany, where he was a captured prisoner of war. After the war had ended, he finished his tour of duty in Europe and then returned to his hometown of Walla Walla, Washington and signed up with the Army Reserves.

1953 Colonel Flathers entered the Korean War as a Captain. After his return from Korea, he attended the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He retired from the United States Army Reserves in 1975 as a Colonel.