

Colonel George F. McSoley (Class 73-43)

Colonel McSoley enlisted in the Rhode Island National Guard on October 16, 1940 and rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon graduation from the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma on July 15, 1943. His first assignment after graduation was to the Field Artillery Officers Replacement Pool, Field Artillery Replacement Center, Camp Roberts, California.

He was a veteran of service with the 43rd Division in the Pacific during World War II. During his career he graduated from University of Omaha and the Italian War College. He was promoted to Captain on March 1, 1946 and to Major on August 16, 1951 and served in the Korean War.

During May 1957, while serving with the 285th Field Artillery Observation Battalion at Fort Bragg, he took the unit to the Atomic Energy Commission Nevada Test Site to take part in Operation Plumbbob, a series of low yield nuclear tests.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on May 24, 1960 and during 1963 he served with the 4th Division Artillery. He was promoted to Colonel on May 4, 1966 and later served as Army G-3 and Chief of the Plans and Operations Branch, Joint Staff of the United States Military Mission Aid to Turkey.

Colonel McSoley assumed duty as the Senior Advisor to the Vermont National Guard in June 1968 and retired from active duty in 1973. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.