



### **Colonel Maxene Monetta Baker Michl**

Colonel Michl worked as a food chemist before enlisting in Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) at Fort Des Moines Iowa on September 11, 1942. She was commissioned upon graduation from the WAAC Officer Candidate School Class # 18 at Fort Des Moines on March 9, 1943.

She was commissioned in the Regular Army on January 7, 1949 and attended the Quartermaster School Officer Advanced Course in 1951. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in military science from the University of Maryland in 1958 and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on April 19, 1960.

She served in Vietnam 1966-1967 as Secretary of the General Staff, Headquarters Area Command, Saigon, was WAC Staff adviser to the Fourth Army 1967-1968.

In January 1968 shortly after enactment of Public Law 90-130 which reduced career restrictions on women officers, Secretary of the Army Stanley Resor approved appointment of a special board to select WAC officers for promotion to temporary colonel. Of twenty-seven eligible WAC officers, Maxene Michl was one of six selected for promotion to Colonel.

She served as the WAC Center Commander at Fort McClellan, Alabama from August 30, 1968 to August 14, 1970.

Colonel Michl formed the WAC Foundation in July 1969 whose purpose was to provide funding for her pet project, the Edith Nourse Rogers Museum at Ft. McClellan in Anniston,

Ala. The museum contains WAC memorabilia, and chronicles women's military involvement throughout history. She was most proud of that accomplishment.

In September 1969 she obtained approval from the Department of the Army to publish the WAC Journal to disseminate news and information of career interest to WAC officers and enlisted women. Her final assignment before retiring in 1972 was a Department of Defense Food Program coordinator and deputy commander of the Army's Natick Laboratories in Natick, Massachusetts.

Her military awards include the Legion of Merit, Army Commendation Medal, Women's Army Corps Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Colonel Michl was buried with military honors at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, with a memorial service conducted by the Military Officers Association of America.