



**COLONEL  
RICHARD J. BACKUS  
CLASS 5-56**

Colonel Backus received further training at Fort Bliss after OCS and was assigned as an instructor prior to attending the Guided Missile Staff Officer's Course. He served with the HAWK Division of the of the Guided Missile Department and deployed to Korea with the Battery B, 4th Missile Battalion, 44th Artillery as a launch platoon leader. He was then reassigned to the 38th Artillery Brigade (AD) as an Air Defense Missile Maintenance Officer.

His next assignment was to Headquarters Army Air Defense Command (ARADCOM) at Ent Air Force Base, Colorado as Technical Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff Plans and Operations. He deployed to Germany as a HAWK Battery Commander with 3rd Missile Battalion, 7th Artillery and later served as Chief Operations and Training, Headquarters 32nd ARADCOM. His next duty was with the Joint Strategic Planning Staff at Offut Air Force Base, Nebraska, followed by a tour in Vietnam as Special Assistant for Combat Security at DaNang.

He commanded 1st Battalion (HAWK) 65th ADA, Key West, Florida and served at the Pentagon in the department of the Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence. He was Facility Commander, USA Central Personnel Security Clearance Facility at Fort Meade and culminated his career as the Deputy Director for Intelligence in the National Military Intelligence Center.

Colonel Backus' decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Meritorious Service Medal.