



**COLONEL  
MARION D. ERNEST**

**CLASS 1-63**

Colonel Ernest's initial assignment after Officer Candidate School was with 2nd Battalion, 31st Field Artillery as a Battery Executive Officer. He then served as Assistant S-3 with the 41st Artillery Group Headquarters at Fort Sill and later commanded Headquarters Company, USA Communications Zone Europe in Orleans, France.

In Vietnam he served as the Assistant S-3, 1st Division Artillery and then commanded Battery A, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery. He later served as an Army ROTC Instructor at the University of Illinois. He returned to Vietnam as J-3, Operations Staff Officer with U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV).

In Germany he served as the Executive Officer 6th Battalion, 14th Field Artillery. He later served as the Assistant G-3, 1st Armored Division in Germany prior to taking Command of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery, 194th Armored Brigade at Fort Knox, Kentucky. His next assignment was Operations Staff Officer, with the Department of the Army, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations. His career culminated as Professor of Military Science, Army ROTC, at the University of Texas.

Colonel Ernest's decorations include the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with V-device, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf clusters, the Air Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.