

# General John M. Shalikashvili

## Artillery OCS Class 4-59



General Shalikashvili was born in Warsaw, Poland and became an American Citizen in May 1958. He received a draft notice in July, joined the Army and applied for Officer Candidate School.

General Shalikashvili served in various Field Artillery and Air Defense Artillery positions as a platoon leader, forward observer, instructor, and student, in various staff positions, and as a battery commander. He served in Vietnam with Advisory Team 4 (redesignated Team 19) Military Assistance Command (MACV) as a senior district advisor from 1968 to 1969.

After attending the Naval War College, he became executive officer of the 2nd Battalion, 18th Field Artillery at Fort Lewis, Washington. In 1975, he commanded 1st Battalion, 84th Field Artillery, 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis. He attended the U.S. Army War College and served as the Commander of Division Artillery (DIVARTY) for the 1st Armored Division in Germany.

In 1987, he commanded the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis and oversaw a "high technology test bed" tasked to integrate three brigades - one heavy armor, one light infantry, and one "experimental mechanized" - into a new type of fighting force.

He served as the commander of Operation *Provide Comfort*, the peacekeeping and humanitarian activity in northern Iraq after the Gulf War. The assignment involved intense and complex negotiations with the Turkish government, and face-to-face meetings with the Iraqi military. He later headed the establishment of the Joint Vision 2010 program, which would transfer the United States military into a single and effective digitalized military force.

General Shalikashvili was appointed Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1993 by President Bill Clinton. His decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal (four awards), Army Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (three awards) and Bronze Star for Valor.