

## Colonel A. R. Kitts retires to Newville area home

A Newville R. D. 2 resident, Colonel Alfred R. Kitts, a member of the Army War College faculty at Carlisle for the past five years, has retired from US Army service, marking the completion of 33 years of active service.

Colonel and Mrs. Kitts have three children, Katherine, 17; Christopher, 11, and Amy, 9.

During retirement ceremonies in Root Hall, Army War College, recently, Colonel Kitts was awarded the Legion of Merit (1st Oak Leaf Cluster) by Major General DeWitt C. Smith Jr., commandant, and cited for meritorious service as chairman of the Department of Corresponding Studies at the War College.

The citation read in part, "His understanding of both the academic and management aspects of the Corresponding Studies Program enabled him to conceive, adopt and implement highly innovative approaches to the College's corresponding education."

Prior to assuming chairmanship of the department in 1973, Col. Kitts was coordinator of Strategic Appraisal Studies for non-resident instruction at the college.

A Vietnam veteran, he came to the college in 1968 following a tour of duty at Sixth Army Headquarters in California where he was chief of the Military Personnel Division.

During his military career, which began in 1943 following graduation from Culver Military Academy, Col. Kitts held key staff and command assignments both here and abroad as a field artillery officer. In 1946, he was sent to Indo-China as troop movement officer in Haiphong.

Upon his return to the states he was named to the Army Equestrian Team at Ft. Riley, Kansas, and also served as aide to the commanding general of the 10th Infantry Division located there.

Following a three-year tour of duty in Germany, in 1954 he was assigned to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, as a battery commander of the Officer Candidate School. A year later he was sent to Iran as a field artillery unit advisor with the US Military Assistance Advisory Group.

In 1966, after duty at the Pentagon in the Office of Personnel Operations, Col. Kitts



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was assigned to Ft. Carson, Colorado, as a battalion commander of the 20th Artillery, Fifth Infantry Division (Mech). While commanding the 46th Artillery Group at Ft. Carson he was ordered to Vietnam where he served as senior advisor to the Binh Duong Province. For valor in combat he was awarded the Silver Star.

While stationed at Carlisle Barracks, Kitts attended Shippensburg State College in the evenings, earning a master's degree in public administration. He is also a graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

During his retirement ceremony, Colonel Donald D. McClanahan, National Guard representative on the faculty, presented him a National Guard Meritorious Service Award in appreciation for his contribution to the National Guard Bureau as chairman of the department of corresponding studies.

Col. Kitts also received a plaque in appreciation for his services as president of the Central Post Fund Council.

Mrs. Kitts was presented a Certificate of Gratitude by General Smith for her outstanding contribution to the community of Carlisle Barracks.