

LIEUTENANT GENERAL (Ret) CJ LeVAN

CAMP DAVIS 1942

LTG LeVan saw action in World War II while serving in the New Guinea campaign. He served in every command level of air defense, from battery commander in Korea, to commanding the U.S. Army Air Defense Center and Commandant of the Air Defense School at Fort Bliss.

After World War II, he assisted and worked with Wernher von Braun and the famed German rocket scientist group and first helped in our nations' development of rocketry and missile programs. Between commands, LTG LeVan taught atomic weapons and nuclear design classes, which included courses designed to educate senior military leaders, senators, and congressmen. The 1973 Yom Kippur War provided him the opportunity to analyze, theorize and rewrite doctrine derived from the success and failures of the war's participants.

Viewed as a visionary and coupled with his forward area weapons experience gained during World War II, LTG LeVan incited a revolution in air defense doctrine and tactics resulting in the creation of "Principles of Air Defense" and the "Air Defense Employment Guidelines".

The Army Training and Doctrine Command relied heavily on his input on the means necessary for protecting the maneuver force in the Army's Air-Land Battle Doctrine. He also served as assistant for Anti-Ballistic Missile, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, and as director, Air Defense, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development. His culminating assignment for the military was as director for Operations, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

LTG LeVan was honored by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command by being enshrined as part of the "Pioneer" induction ceremony. He was also asked to make office visits with many U.S. presidents of his era from John F. Kennedy to Jimmy Carter during our Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT II) initiatives.

His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit with four Oak Leaf Clusters.