

Colonel Henry R. O'Neil (Class 69-55)

Colonel O'Neil is a native of Providence, Rhode Island, born on 25 July 1933. He graduated from Bryant College in 1954 with a degree in Business Administration. He entered the active military service as an enlisted man in 1954 and was commissioned a second lieutenant of field artillery in October 1955 after attending Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

His initial duty included assignments as a staff officer with the 2nd Armored Division Artillery in Baumholder, Germany and as forward observer and fire direction officer with the 1st Battalion, 16th Field Artillery. He returned to Fort Hood, Texas with the division in 1957 and served as a battery executive officer until 1960 when he was assigned as battery Executive officer and S-3 to the 2nd Battalion, 20th Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division in Korea.

He returned to the States in 1961 to be assigned to the faculty at Fort Sill, Oklahoma where he served as a nuclear warhead instructor in the Guided Missile Department. In 1962 he attended the Artillery Officers Advanced Course and from October 1962 to June 1964 served as the assistant G3 plans officer for the Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Sill. In July 1964 he moved to Europe and served successfully as the Assistant Fire Support Coordinator, battery commander, assistant S3 and Secretary of the General Staff, 3rd Infantry Division.

Colonel Neil returned to the States in July 1967 to attend the Command and General Staff College and in August 1968 was assigned to HQ, I Field Force Vietnam Artillery as S2. From January 1969 until July 1969 he commanded the 6th Battalion, 32nd FA. He returned to the States in August 1969 to command the 3rd Battalion, 73rd FA at Fort Irwin, California and in July 1970 was assigned to Washington as a staff officer in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel where he served for two years.

From August 1972 to July 1973, he attended the Army War College and was subsequently assigned to USAREUR where he served for 2 years as the G3 of the 3rd Infantry Division followed by a one year tour as Chief, Training Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, HQ USAREUR.

In July 1976 he became Chief, Training Evaluation Division, US Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, VA.

Colonel O'Neil's Decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the meritorious Service Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air medal with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters and the Army Commendation Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters.