

Colonel Ralph Larry Stotts graduated from Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Class Number 40, on 26 November 1942, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery. Upon graduation he was assigned as a Battery Officer, "A" Battery, 35th Field Artillery. Was reassigned to 976th Field Artillery Battalion where he served from 1 July 1943 to 6 April 1945 as Reconnaissance Officer and Battalion S-2. Promoted to grade of Captain 19 December 1945. Returned to Fort Sill and assigned to Field Artillery Replacement Training Center as S-4, relieved from Active Duty and reverted to US Army Reserve 27 February 1946.

Assigned 1 July 1950 as Battery Commander, HHB, 335th Field Artillery Battalion (USAR), Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Promoted to grade of Major and assigned as Battalion S-3, 335th Field Artillery Battalion (USAR) assumed command of the 335th Field Artillery Battalion (USAR) 13 August 1954. The 335th Field Artillery Battalion was redesignated 764th Field Artillery Battalion (USAR) 30 March 1955. Was promoted to grade of Lieutenant Colonel 3 July 1957. The 764th Field Artillery Battalion was redesignated 3d Howitzer Battalion (8") (SP) 83d Artillery 1 June 1959.

Colonel Stotts commanded same unit for 16 years, from 13 August 1954 to 23 August 1970, at which time he was promoted to Colonel and, because of grade, had to relinquish command.

On 1 July 1971, Colonel Stotts assumed command of the 40th Ordnance Group (Ammo) (DS/GS), Jackson, Mississippi. In addition to commanding this unit, Colonel Stotts is Commanding Officer, Command and Control Headquarters, Mississippi, and is responsible for supervision of Administration and Training of all US Army Reserve units (less Engineer) in the State of Mississippi. This

command consists of twenty-one (21) US Army Reserve Units of diverse branch and mission assignments.

Colonel Stotts has attended the following courses of Military Instruction:

1942 - FA Officer Candidate School, Ft Sill OK

1954 - Associate C&GS (Div), Ft Leavenworth, KS

1955 - Nuclear Weapons Employment Course, Ft Leavenworth KS

1969 - Command and General Staff College, Ft Leavenworth, KS

1963 and 1968 - National Security Seminar

Colonel Stotts has been awarded the following awards and decorations:

Meritorious Service Medal

Bronze Star Medal

Air Medal w/6 Oak Leaf Clusters

Purple Heart

European-African and Middle Eastern Service Medal

American Campaign Medal

Victory Medal, WWII

Army Medal of Occupation'

Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/10 Year Device

Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal