

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH FOR THE FIELD ARTILLERY OCS HALL OF FAME
UNITED STATES FIELD ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 33027
FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503**

NAME JOSEPH W. TARRANT	DATE 1 April 1995
	RANK BRIGADIER GENERAL
TELEPHONE (COMMERCIAL) (203) 748-1044	DOR 19 March 1985
ADDRESS 16 Hickok Ave. Bethel CT 06074	DOB 20 September 1928
OCS CLASS #45-53	DATE GRADUATED 1 December 1953

BRIEF RESUME OF DUTY ASSIGNMENTS: Brigadier General Joseph W. Tarrant began his military career upon his enlistment in the 963d Field Artillery Battalion of the Connecticut Army National Guard on 23 September 1946. (BG Tarrant's enlistment was witnessed and signed by 1LT Lee Hartell, later to be posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in Korea). Rising to the rank of Corporal, BG Tarrant left the service in 1949 to attend college. He reenlisted in 1953 and was selected to attend Officer Candidate School at FT Sill, OK. Upon graduation and commissioning on 1 December 1953, 2LT Tarrant was assigned as a Forward Observer of Btry C, 963d FA. From March 1954 until December 1955 2LT Tarrant served on active duty with the 457th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion, 11th Airborne Division at FT Campbell, KY, earning his paratrooper wings while performing duties as forward observer, Recon/Survey Officer and Battalion Communications Officer. Upon return he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and assumed duties as Executive Officer in Btry B, 963d FA Bn. Upon deactivation of his battalion in 1959, 1LT Tarrant was transferred to the Combat Support Company of the 102d Infantry Battalion and resumed his career as an infantry officer. He assumed command of Co B 102d Infantry and was promoted to Captain in 1962. He served various battalion staff positions and as a tactical officer of the Connecticut Military Academy Officer Candidate School. In 1968 he was promoted to Major and assigned as Operations Officer, Executive Officer and subsequently Lieutenant Colonel, Battalion Commander, of the 2d Battalion 102d Infantry. Further assignments in grade included Logistics Officer, State, Area Command and Executive Officer, 43d Infantry Brigade. In March 1980, he was promoted and federally recognized in the rank of Colonel and served as the Assistant Chief of Staff G2, G5, Inspector General, and Deputy Commander of the State Area Command. In July 1983, Col Tarrant assumed Command of the 43d Infantry Brigade, 26th (Yankee) Division. He was promoted to Brigadier General upon his retirement in March 1985.

AWARDS, DECORATIONS, AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE: BG Tarrant holds the U.S. Army Meritorious Service Medal and twice was awarded the Connecticut Emergency Service Medal. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and also attended the Rear Area Operations and Command Course at FT Sill, OK. BG Tarrant holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees in Education from Western Connecticut State University. He is retired as Vocational Coordinator for the Town of Bethel School System and was previously cited as the Outstanding Vocational Coordinator for Western Connecticut. BG Tarrant is the past Connecticut State, District, and Post Commander of the American Legion, and served on that

organization's National Security Commission. Currently, he serves as Chairman of the Commission for the Aged for the Town of Bethel. BG Tarrant and his wife Joan reside in Bethel where they raised 3 daughters and 3 sons.



DAVID W. GAY

MG CTARNG

The Adjutant General

(Inducted FT Sill OCS Hall of Fame 1994)