

BIOGRAPHY (13 July 1977)

Colonel George E. Thayer, Jr.

Born and reared in Norfolk, Virginia, Colonel George E. Thayer, Jr. also began his military career there as an enlisted man in the Air Corps Reserve. Called to active duty in 1946, he completed Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery in Oct 1946. Upon completion of Flight School at San Marcos, Texas, he went on to Ft Sill, Oklahoma.

In 1948, Colonel Thayer served with the 7th Infantry Division in Korea and was aide-de-camp to the assistant division commander, BG E. W. Piburn, in Japan. During the Korean War, he flew as a Liaison Pilot for the 7th Inf Div.

Assigned to the Aviation Section of the Seventh Army in 1952, Colonel Thayer subsequently served at Headquarters, US Army, Europe. While there, he served as personal pilot to GEN A. C. "Nuts" McAuliffe.

In 1953, Colonel Thayer was integrated into the Regular Army as an Infantry Officer.

Upon his return from overseas in 1956, Colonel Thayer attended the IOAC at Fort Benning, Georgia. Following graduation, he was assigned to Fort Rucker, Alabama where he served with the Aviation School. Later, he commanded the T-37 Test Unit.

Following another European tour, this time with the 21st Infantry, Colonel Thayer attended the Command and General Staff College at

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Later, he went to the Plans and Operations Division; Directorate of Test Support; Test, Evaluation and Control Group, Project TEAM at Fort Benning, Ga.

Utilizing the Army's Bootstrap Program, Colonel Thayer completed his undergraduate studies in 1966. He was awarded a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science by the University of Omaha. After graduation he was assigned to the G3 Section, USACDCEC, Fort Ord, California.

Colonel Thayer served with the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) in the Republic of Vietnam. He was initially assigned as the Executive Officer of the 11th Aviation Group. Later, he commanded the 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion.

When he returned from Vietnam, Colonel Thayer was assigned to Fort Stewart, Ga. He was the Assistant Chief of Staff, G3 (later called Directorate of Plans, Training and Security) until 19 Feb 1972, when he was assigned as the Assistant Director of the Third US Army Test Directorate for Test 2, OSD Reserve Component Study (more commonly known as the Williamson Study).

In August 1973, Colonel Thayer was assigned to USARR VI at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He served as Aviation Readiness coordinator until December 1975, when he became Chief, Operations Division.

Colonel Thayer was a member of Class No. 5 of the Non-Resident Army War College, graduating in 1974.

In August 1976, Colonel Thayer was assigned to USARR V with duty station in St. Louis, Missouri, as Senior Army Advisor to the Commander, 102d US Army Reserve Command.

Colonel Thayer and his wife, Jacquetta, have four children. Virginia is married and lives in Thorntown, Indiana with her husband Ron, and their daughters Veronica, Adrienne, and Heather. George III, a 1975 Citadel graduate and DMG, is an Army Lieutenant serving in Germany. James Eric is a member of the Class of 1980 at West Point. Jody, a high school student, lives at home.

Colonel Thayer holds the following awards and decorations:

Silver Star	Army of Occupation Medal
Legion of Merit w/1 OLC	National Defense Service Medal
Distinguished Flying Cross w/OLC	Korean Service Medal w/3 Bronze Stars
Bronze Star w/"V"	United Nations Service Medal
Meritorious Service Medal	Vietnam Service Medal w/5 Bronze Stars
Air Medal w/27 OLC	Vietnam Campaign Medal
Army Commendation Medal w/2 OLC	WW II Victory Medal
Purple Heart	

GEORGE E. THAYER, Jr. COLONEL, IN

Born: 24 Oct 1927, Norfolk, Virginia

Enlisted: 24 Oct 1944

Commissioned: 2d LT, Arty, 15 Oct 1946	LTC (AUS) 13 Aug 1964
1st LT, Arty, 12 Aug 1948	LTC (RA) 12 Aug 1969
CPT, Arty(AUS) 26 Jan 1953	COL (AUS) 18 Jul 1969
MAJ, Inf(AUS) 29 Dec 1960	COL (RA) 1 Jan 1974
MAJ, Inf (RA) 12 Aug 1962	

NOTE: Integrated 1st LT, Inf, Regular Army w/DOR  
24 OCT 1951 in June 1953.

Ratings:

Liaison Pilot 5 Sep 1947

Army Aviator 11 Apr 1950

Senior Army Aviator 1 Nov 1954

Master Army Aviator 13 Sep 1962

Dual Rated - 5100 +

O-1A T-37A

TO-ID OH-13H

U-6A UH-19D

U-8D CH-34A & C

RU-8D UH-1D/H

F/W Instrument Examiner

R/W Instrument Examiner

Service Schools:

OCS, Ft Sill, OK 1946  
IOAC, Ft Benning, GA 1956-57  
C&GSC, Ft Leavenworth, KS 1964  
AWC, Carlisle Bks, Pa 1974

Decorations:

Silver Star

Legion of Merit

DFC w/OLC

Bronze Star w/"V"

Meritorious Service Medal

Air Medal w/27 OLC

Army Commendation Medal w/20LC

Purple Heart

WW II Victory Medal

Army of Occupation Medal

National Defense Service Medal

Korean Service Medal w/3 Bronze Stars

United Nations Service Medal

VN SVC Medal w/5 Bronze Stars

VN Campaign Medal

Civilian Schools:

Maury High School - 1946  
Norfolk, VA

U of Omaha - 1966  
Omaha, NEB

Assignments:

7th Inf Div, FEB 1948 - OCT 1951

Liaison Pilot (Korea)

Aide-de-Camp to Asst Div Commander (Japan)

Army Aviator (Korea) (Combat)

Seventh US Army Flight Detachment, SEP 1952 - JAN 1955

Hq USAREUR, FEB 1955 - JUL 1956  
Flight Detachment

NOTE: Assigned as personal pilot to both the CG, Seventh Army and  
CINCUSAREUR

Fort Benning, Georgia, AUG 1956 - APR 1957  
Infantry Officers Advance Courses Nr 1

Fort Rucker, Alabama, MAY 1957 - OCT 1960  
Executive Officer, DOI, USAAVNS  
CO, T-37 Test Unit  
CO, USA AS&TA Platoon (Experimental)

United States Army, Europe, DEC 1960 - NOV 1963  
S-3, 1st Battle Group, 21st Infantry, 24th Inf Div  
Assistant Division Aviation Commander, 24th Inf Div  
Executive Officer, 24th Aviation Battalion  
Commanding Officer, 24th Aviation Battalion

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas JAN - MAY - 1964  
Student, USAC&GSC (Associate Crse)

Fort Benning, GA JUN 1964 - JUN 1965  
Test, Evaluation & Control GP (Project Team)  
CH, Briefing Team  
CH, Visitors Bureau, Air Assault II

U of Omaha - JUN 65 - MAR 66  
BGE (Political Science)

Fort Ord, Calif APR 66 - DEC 67  
USACDCEC  
CH, Fld Exp Div G3

1st Cav Div (VN) JAN - DEC 1968  
XO, 11 AVN Gp  
CO, 227 AHB

Ft Stewart, GA JAN 69 - AUG 73  
ACofS G3, USAFTC  
DPTSEC, USAFTC  
Asst Dir, Test 2

Ft Knox, KY AUG 73 - AUG 76  
AVN Read Coord, ARR VI  
C, OPS Div, ARR VI

Ft Sheridan, IL AUG 76 - to date  
SRAA, 102d ARCOM (duty station St. Louis, MO)