

BG Emmett R. Reynolds



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Our 17th Signal Battalion Association Reunion hats are off as we salute in the spotlight column Emmett Robinson Reynolds (BG Ret.). General Reynolds' career started in 1943 when he graduated from West Point and entered the Signal Corps as a Second Lieutenant. He then proceeded to lead the Division Signal Company of the 81st Infantry Division through combat in the Western Carolines and the Philippine campaigns and then went on to Japan to become Division Signal Officer.

Highlights of Emmett's various outstanding Army assignments and posts were his service on the staff of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army; command of the 29th Signal Battalion and the 17th Signal Battalion in Germany; Chairman of the European Radio Frequency Agency in London, where he established and directed radio spectrum management policies and programs to ensure electromagnetic spectrum support of NATO; Signal Officer of the Seventh Army in Germany; as the merger of Seventh Army and U. S. Army Europe neared, he organized the Seventh Army Communications Command as a means of retaining an integral tactical communications capability for Seventh Army, and became its first commanding officer; and U. S. Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, Communications-Electronics, U. S. Military Assistance Command. He ended his career in the Army as Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Communications-Electronics, Department of the Army. In this last position, Emmett developed logistical planning, programming, and support programs for the Army's world-wide non-tactical communications-electronics activities, computer programs for Army posts, and communications programs in support of tactical military operations. In support of these programs he developed tactical automatic telephone and data switching programs and was active in presenting them to Congress.

Throughout his Army career, Emmett managed to find time to pursue a Masters Degree in Electronics from the University of Illinois, a Masters Degree in Business Administration from George Washington University, as well as graduate from the Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Ft. McNair, D. C.

Emmett continued his interest in the telecommunications-electronics field through his capacity as consultant and member of the staff of Battelle Memorial Institute, where he conducted a study and analysis of the Army's role in telecommunications standardization and a survey of the contributions of digital computer systems to selected military/civil communications and tactical data systems. He also served as a telecommunications consultant to Stanford Research Institute, Systematics General, and General Research Corporation.

You can find Emmett Reynolds in Who's Who and the National Register of Prominent Americans. Pinned on his chest, among other decorations and awards, are the Army's Distinguished Service Medal and two Legion of Merit awards.

General Reynolds, contacted at his retirement home in Columbus, Georgia, reports that he heard a lot of good things about the 17th Signal Battalion Association. He greatly enjoys his one grandchild, who lives nearby in the Columbus, Georgia area.