United States Marine Corps (Ret.)

Brigadier GeneralGary E. Brown



Brigadier General Gary E. Brown retired in 1993. His last billet on active duty was the Deputy Commander, Marine Forces, Pacific/Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii.

General Brown is from St. Petersburg, Fla. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps upon graduation from Presbyterian College, Clinton, S.C., in June 1963. He is an honor graduate from the Amphibious Warfare School; on the Commandant's list at the Army Command and General Staff College; and graduated with highest distinction from the Naval War College, Newport, R.I.

After completing The Basic School, at Quantico, Va., he was assigned to the First Marine Brigade in Hawaii. The brigade deployed to Vietnam in May 1965, where he served as a rifle platoon commander in the 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, until March 1966.

Upon his return to the United States, General Brown was assigned to the 2d Infantry Training Regiment, Camp Lejeune, N.C., as a company commander. Promoted to captain in August 1966, he was assigned to the U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga., where he served as an instructor and Assistant Marine Corps Representative. Following graduation from the Amphibious Warfare School in December 1968, General Brown returned to Vietnam for a second tour, serving initially as a company commander in the 5th Marines and later as a combined action company commander. During May 1970, he reported to the USS Springfield (CLG-7), homeported in Gaeta, Italy, for duty as Commanding Officer of the Marine detachment.

Promoted to Major in 1972, General Brown was transferred to the Marine Corps Recruiting Station, Houston, Texas, where he served as the officer-in-charge. He reported to the 1st Marines in August 1975, serving as the Executive Officer, 1st Battalion; Regimental S-3; and Executive Officer, 2d Battalion, respectively.

Following graduation from the Army Command and Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in June 1979, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and transferred to Headquarters, U.S. European Command, Stuttgart, Germany, where he was assigned to the Plans and Policy Directorate. He attended the Naval War College, Newport, R.I., from 1981 to 1982. He then reported to the 9th Marines for duty as the Deputy Camp Commander, Camp Hansen, Okinawa.

Reassigned in 1983 to the U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla., General Brown served as Chief of the Prepositioning Branch, Logistics and Security Assistance Directorate. He was advanced to colonel in October 1985 and assigned as Chief of the War Material Division. In July 1986, after three years with the Central Command, he was ordered to the 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4.

During June 1987, he was assigned duty as the Commanding Officer, 1st Marines, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif. In November 1988, General Brown was selected for promotion to brigadier general. He was assigned duty as the Director, Personnel Procurement Division, Manpower and Reserve Affairs Department, Headquarters Marine Corps in December 1988. General Brown was advanced to brigadier general on April 26, 1989. He was assigned duty as the Commanding General, Marine Forces, Southwest Asia, on June 24, 1991. General Brown served in this capacity until October 10, 1991, and assumed his last active duty assignment on November 7, 1991.

His personal decorations include: the Distinguished Service Medal; the Silver Star Medal with gold star in lieu of a second award; Purple Heart; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"; Army Commendation Medal; Navy Achievement Medal; Combat Action Ribbon; and the Republic of Vietnam Staff Service Honor Medal.

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