

Biography



National Guard Bureau Departments of the Army and the Air Force Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20310-2500

BRIGADIER GENERAL (KY) MICHAEL W. DAVIDSON
Kentucky Army National Guard

Brigadier General Michael W. Davidson is the adjutant general of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. As adjutant general, he oversees the operation of Kentucky's Department of Military Affairs, which includes the Kentucky Air National Guard and the Army National Guard, the Division of Disaster and Emergency Services, the state's Air Transport Division and several other related state agencies. He is commander of the more than 8,000 troops of the Kentucky Army National Guard and the 1,200 members of the Kentucky Air National Guard.



General Davidson was born Apr. 8, 1947, in Memphis, Tenn. Education at the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville, he earned a bachelor of arts degree in history in 1969, a master of science degree in community development in 1974, a juris doctor (law) degree in 1975 and a Ph.D. in 1985, all from the University of Louisville. His doctoral research is in national security policy making. His military education includes the U.S. Army Infantry School Officer Candidate Course and Airborne Course in 1970; Special Forces Officer Course, 1970; and Special Forces Jumpmaster Course in 1971; the Jungle Operation Course in 1971; the Infantry Officer Advanced Course at the U.S. Army Infantry School in 1972; 5th U.S. Army Intelligence School Counterintelligence Officer Course in 1974; Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course in 1975; and the Army Command and General Officer Course.

General Davidson's active military service began in 1969. He was commissioned as an infantry officer following Officer Candidate School. He qualified for and served with the Army Special Forces before assignment to Vietnam, where he served with the Airborne Ranger Infantry Company of the First Air Cavalry Division. He left active duty in 1971 and has served

(December 1988)

OVER

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with reserve and active duty Special Forces units since that time. In December of 1987, he was appointed adjutant general of Kentucky.

The general has received the following decorations and badges: Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three Campaign Stars, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Special Forces Tab and the Gallantry Cross with Bronze Star from the Republic of Vietnam.

He is a member of the board of Leadership Louisville Foundation, Inc., the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and the Louisville Chamber of Commerce Small Business Institute. He is also a director and vice-chairman of the Waterfront Development Corporation in Louisville.

General Davidson authored an article entitled, "Senior Officers and Vietnam Policymaking," which was published in the Spring, 1986 edition of Parameters: The Journal of the Army War College. It was re-published in Assessing the Vietnam War, Lloyd J. Matthews and Dale E. Brown, eds., Pergamon-Brassey's International Defense Publishers, 1987.

He practiced law in Louisville from 1975 to 1981. He was appointed in 1981 as the executive director of the Kentucky State Racing Commission and, in 1982, to the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. His business activities included coal and oil operations in Kentucky.

General Davidson was promoted to the rank of Lt. Col. and federally recognized on Dec. 13, 1987. He was recognized as brigadier general in the Commonwealth of Kentucky effective Dec. 31, 1987.

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

1 December 1997

DAVIDSON, MICHAEL WALKER

Major General of the line, ARNGUS

Mandatory Removal Date: 16 July 2005

Present Assignment: Mobilization Assistant to the Director,
The Joint Staff, Washington, DC

Enlisted Service:
Over 8 months

Source and Date of Commission:
OCS, 19 June 1970

Years of Active Commissioned Service:
Over 26 years

Total Years of Service
Over 27 years

<u>Military Schools Attended</u>	<u>Year Completed</u>
Infantry School, Infantry Officer Basic Course	1970
Infantry School, Airborne Course	1970
John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center, Special Forces Officer Course	1970
Special Forces Jumpmaster Course, John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center	1971
Fort Clayton, Panama, Jungle Operations Course	1971
Infantry School, Infantry Officer Advanced Course	1972
Intelligence School, Counterintelligence Officer/Technician Agent Course	1974
Infantry School, Infantry Officer Advanced Correspondence Course	1975
Training Support Center, Military Intelligence Officer Advanced Course	1977
Command and General Staff College	1978
Army War College, Reserve Component National Security Issues Seminar	1988

<u>Civilian Education:</u>	<u>Degrees Received</u>
High School, Louisville, Kentucky	Graduated 1965
University of Louisville, Lexington, Kentucky	BA (History)
	MS (Community Development)
	JD (Law)
	PhD(Philosophy)

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Decorations and Awards

Defense Superior Service Medal

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Purple Heart

Meritorious Service Medal

Air Medal

Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster and "V" device

Army Achievement Medal

Good Conduct Medal

Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star

Vietnam Service Medal with 3 campaign stars

Army Forces Reserve Medal with silver hourglass device

Army Service Ribbon

Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with bronze star

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with "60" device

Master Parachutist Badge

Combat Infantryman Badge

Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge

Special Forces Tab

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Valorous Unit Award

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm

Chronological List of Appointments

Second Lieutenant	USAR	19 May 70
First Lieutenant	USAR	19 Jun 71
Captain	USAR	15 Jun 74
Major	USAR	15 Sep 78
Lieutenant Colonel	ARNG	13 Dec 87
Colonel	ARNG	01 Jun 89
Brigadier General (Line)	ARNG	07 Dec 90
Major General (Line)	ARNG	25 Oct 93

Chronological Record of Duty Assignments:

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
ACTIVE DUTY		
Student, Airborne School	Jun 70	Jul 70
Detachment Executive Officer, Company D 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces S1, Company D, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces	Jul 70	Dec 70
Executive Officer, Company H (Ranger), 3rd Brigade (Separate), 1st Cavalry (Airmobile)	Dec 70	May 71
	May 71	Dec 71
USAR - Not on Active Duty		
USAR Control Group (Annual Training)	Dec 71	Feb 72
389th Military Intelligence Detachment, 11th Special Forces Group	May 72	Nov 75

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USAR Control Group (Reinforcement)	Nov 75	Nov 75
389th Military Intelligence Detachment, 11th Special Forces Group	Nov 75	May 81
USAR Control Group (Reinforcement)	May 81	Jun 85

Chronological Record of Duty Assignments (Cont'd):

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Assistant S3, 5th Special Forces Group	Jun 85	Jun 85
USAR Control Group (Reinforcement) with duty University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky	Dec 85	Jan 86
Assistant S3, 5th Special Forces Group	Jan 85	Feb 86
USAR Control Group (Reinforcement) with duty University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky	Feb 86	Jul 86
Assistant S3, 5th Special Forces Group, USAR Control Group (Reinforcement)	Jul 86	Aug 86
Aug 86	Aug 86	Aug 87
Ground Operations Officer, Headquarters, Special Operations Command, Central Command	Aug 87	Aug 87
USAR Control Group, (Reinforcement)	Aug 87	Dec 87
ARNG - Not on Active Duty		
The Adjutant General, Kentucky	Dec 87	Sep 91
Deputy Commanding General, (Army National Guard), US Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina	Oct 91	Oct 93
Deputy CINC (Mobilization and Reserve Affairs) US Special Operations Command, McDill, AFB, Florida	Oct 93	May 95
Mobilization Assistant to Director, The Joint Staff, Washington, DC	May 95	Present


MICHAEL W. DAVIDSON
Major General, KY NG

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ADDENDUM TO RESUME OF SERVICE CAREER

CAREER OCCUPATION: Attorney at Law

NATURE, SCOPE AND EXTENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and authorized to perform both civil and legal criminal legal functions for clients, including drafting of legal documents, giving of legal advice and representing such before courts, administrative agencies, board and other official sections as prescribed and authorized by law with emphasis toward the transaction of business in general both private and public.