

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH  
GENERAL CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS

Creighton Williams Abrams was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, September 15, 1914. He graduated from Agawan High School, Massachusetts, in 1932 and from the United States Military Academy in 1936, receiving a commission of Second Lieutenant of Cavalry. His first four years were spent as a troop officer in the 1st Cavalry Division. In 1940 he was assigned to the 1st Armored Division, where he served several months as a tank company commander before assignment to the newly formed 4th Armored Division. He served in the 4th Armored Division from its activation in 1941 until VE Day in 1945 in the positions of regimental adjutant, regimental executive officer, battalion commander, and combat command commander. He participated in all campaigns of the 4th Division as a battalion or combat command commander.

Following VE Day, General Abrams was assigned to the War Department General Staff with duty on the board to determine Army postindependence base requirements in the Philippines, and later to Plans Section of the Army Ground Forces. From 1946 to 1948 he was the Director of Tactics at the Armored School. Following this, he attended the Command and General Staff College regular course. In 1949 he returned to Europe and Commanded the 63rd Tank Battalion of the 1st Infantry Division and the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Returning to the United States for a year as a student at the Army War College, he was then assigned to Korea, where he served successively as Chief of Staff of I Corps, X Corps and IX Corps. In 1955 he served as Chief of Staff of the Armored Center at Fort Knox.

In 1956 General Abrams was promoted to Brigadier General and assigned to the Department of the Army General Staff as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Reserve Components.

In 1959 he returned to Europe as Assistant Division Commander of the 3rd Armored Division. In May 1960 he was promoted to Major General and assigned as Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Headquarters, United States Army, Europe. He returned to the 3rd Armored Division as Division Commander in October 1960 and served in this capacity until he returned to Washington on 19 May 1962 for assignment as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations for Civil Affairs. On 23 July 1962 he was appointed Director of Operations in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations. On 15 October 1962 he assumed the duties of the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations for Requirements and Programs. In April 1963 he was appointed Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development. He became Commanding General of V Corps on 15 July 1963 and was promoted to Lieutenant General on 1 August 1963.

On 3 August 1964 General Abrams was appointed Acting Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army. General Abrams was promoted to the rank of General on 4 September 1964 and on the same date was sworn in as Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army.

General Abrams was announced as Deputy Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, by President Johnson on 6 April 1967. On 3 July 1968 he became Commanding General, U.S. Forces, Vietnam.

PERSONAL DATA

Date and Place of Birth: 15 September 1914 - Springfield, Massachusetts.

Parents: Father and Mother - Deceased.

Marriage: Date: 30 August 1936

Wife: Julia Harvey Abrams

Children: Noel Abrams (Mrs. Walter L. Bradley)  
Creighton W. Abrams, III (CPT, Artillery)  
John N. Abrams (LT, Armor)  
Jeanne R. Abrams  
Elizabeth H. Abrams  
Robert B. Abrams

LIST OF CITATIONS AND DECORATIONS

Distinguished Service Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster  
Distinguished Service Medal with Two Oak Leaf Cluster  
Silver Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster  
Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster  
Bronze Star Medal with Valor Device  
American Defense Service Medal  
American Campaign Medal  
EAME Campaign Medal  
Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal  
WW II Victory Medal  
Army Occupation Medal  
French Legion of Honor, Degree of Chevalier  
French Croix de Guerre with Palm  
French Fourragere  
Distinguished Service Order (Great Britain)  
Ulchi Distinguished Military Service Medal with Gold Star (Korea)  
ROK Presidential Citation  
Korean Service Medal  
United Nations Service Medal  
National Defense Service Medal  
Distinguished Unit Badge