

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
GENERAL CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS

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Creighton Williams Abrams was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, September 15, 1914. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1936, as a Second Lieutenant of Cavalry. His first four years were 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 in which he served until VE Day in 1945. 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. From 1946 to 1948 he was 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.

He returned to the United States for a year at the Army War College, then was 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 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 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.

On 1 June, 1967, General Abrams was appointed Deputy Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (USMACV). He succeeded General William C. Westmoreland as Commander, USMACV, when General Westmoreland was named U.S. Army Chief of Staff on 3 July, 1968.

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He holds sixteen U.S., three French, one British and one Korean decorations.

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

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