



Remembering  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Samuel T. Campbell Jr. (Retired)

6 June 1920–19 April 2008

*Submitted by Mr. Rickey L. Sanders*

Samuel T. Campbell Jr. was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was prompted to enlist in the U.S. Army as a result of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

Upon completion of basic training, Campbell was chosen for Officer Candidate School and, after graduation, was assigned to the U.S. Army Air Corps as a pilot cadet. He was later reassigned as a flight simulator instructor.

In 1943, Campbell was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division. As a mortar platoon leader in the jungles of the South Pacific, he participated in many island campaigns, earned the Combat Infantry Badge, and was awarded the Bronze Star with V Device for valor in combat.

In September 1945, Campbell was reassigned to the Military Police Corps and sent to Japan as a member of the occupation force. He remained there until he was discharged from the Army in early 1946.

In 1946, Campbell began a brief civilian career, but he rejoined the Army in 1947 because he missed the military life. One of his first assignments after returning as an officer in the Military Police Corps was in Vienna, Austria—a hotbed of espionage and intrigue at the time.

When he returned to the United States, Campbell was transferred to the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (CID), where he served as a personal bodyguard for Dr. Werner von Braun, a former German scientist who led the infant American rocket program that later evolved into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

In 1954, Campbell was trained as a polygraph examiner at the Military Police School, Camp

Gordon, Georgia. His instructors were so impressed with him that they arranged for his reassignment as an instructor at the school. For the next several years, he taught courses there.

During his Army career, Campbell enjoyed many interesting assignments, including that of commanding officer of the U.S. Army Crime Laboratory (one of only three such laboratories in the world) in Frankfurt, Germany, in the early 1960s.

In July 1966, after more than twenty-three years of service, Campbell retired from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel. Almost immediately, he was recruited by the U.S. Agency for International Development and was sent to Saigon, Vietnam, as the senior law enforcement advisor to the South Vietnamese National Police, where he served from 1966 to 1968. Following another brief period of retirement, Campbell moved to San Francisco, California, where he took a job as the director of security for the University of San Francisco. But the Army soon recruited him back as a senior civilian supervisor with the 6th Region CID Headquarters at the Presidio of San Francisco, where he remained until his well-deserved, final retirement in 1985.

In 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Campbell (Retired) was inducted into the CID Hall of Fame. He was cited for the lasting influence his leadership, mentoring ability, and professionalism had on the CID.

Lieutenant Colonel Campbell was preceded in death by his wife, Jule, in October 2007. He is survived by his daughter, Robin Ditto, of Gainesville, Florida; his son, Samuel, of San Diego, California; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.