

Colonel Philemon A. St. Amant II
(US Army, Retired)

Colonel St. Amant retired from the Regular Army in 1993, after more than 30 years of commissioned active service as a field artillery officer and Foreign Area specialist in the Middle East and North Africa. He served in the United States, Vietnam, France, Lebanon and Greece. His assignments included command and staff tours with various airborne units, as well as a teaching assignment in the Department of Foreign Languages at West Point. He served as commander of Observer Group Lebanon, in the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (Palestine) during the civil war in that country, and was subsequently posted as Middle East Branch Chief in the J-5, Joint Chiefs of Staff. He has traveled extensively throughout the Middle East, and participated in policy negotiations in such countries as Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Iraq, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. He was called upon to visit Baghdad during the Iraq-Iran War as part of an 8-man team investigating the Iraqi attack on USS Stark in 1987, and later commanded the US Army NATO forces in Greece. His last assignment was as Chief of Staff of the joint command in Alaska.

Colonel St. Amant has a bachelor's degree from West Point, and a master's degree in French from Middlebury College (with studies at the University of Paris). He graduated from the Army's Command and General Staff College, and the Naval War College (Senior Course). He has been awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Medal with "V" device and numeral "5," the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Achievement Medal, the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, the Senior Parachutist Badge, and various service medals, ribbons and foreign awards. After his retirement from military service, he studied accounting at LSU, and is a Certified Public Accountant (Inactive) in Louisiana.

Colonel St. Amant has been married since 1963 to the former Harriet Otto, and is the father of two married daughters. He has one grandson and three granddaughters.