



COLONEL BRION V. CHABOT, US Army (Retired)

Past Commander-in-Chief,
The Military Order of the World Wars, 2003-2004

Biographical Sketch



Colonel Brion "Bri" Chabot is the son of the late Colonel Joseph L. Chabot, U.S. Army, (Retired), and Mrs. Bonnie V. Chabot, of Whitefield, New Hampshire. Bri's Dad, Colonel "Joe" Chabot, served with General Wainwright during defense of Bataan, and was a highly decorated survivor of the Bataan Death March and three years of brutal Japanese captivity in the Philippines. After graduation from Wakefield High School, Arlington, VA, Bri won a competitive Congressional appointment from the Honorable Perkins Bass of New Hampshire, and entered in the US Military Academy as a Plebe in June 1956.

Upon graduating from the US Military Academy in 1960, he was commissioned a 2LT of Field Artillery and attended the Airborne Course at Ft. Benning, GA. Subsequently he served a 29-year military career with three Cold War assignments along the East-West Border in Germany and two tours in Vietnam. During the Vietnam conflict, he served as artillery advisor and leadership, training, and psychological warfare advisor to the South Vietnamese National Military Academy (1966). Later he served as the battalion executive officer, 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery, 101st Airborne Division (1969-70). He also commanded that battalion for 22 days of sustained combat operations against the North Vietnamese forces near the old Imperial City of Hue. He served twice in joint NATO Operations and Plans assignments in Europe and served four years at the Army Military Personnel Center in Washington where he managed the Army's Foreign Area Officer and Training with Industry Programs.

Bri earned a Masters degree in Government from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Masters in Administration, with specialization in Operations Research Systems Analysis, from the George Washington University. Early in his career Bri served as aide-de-camp to General Charles H. Bonesteel, the VII Corps Commander, during the Berlin Wall crises. At the University of Texas he was the graduate teaching assistant to Professor Walt Rostow, who had been a key economic and military advisor to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson during the Vietnam era. Bri also served as Executive Officer, 1st Armored Division Artillery, under Gen. John Shalikashvili, who later became Chairman of the JCS. Later, Bri served as key operations assistant to General Gordon Sullivan, who became the Army Chief of Staff, and General Glen Otis, CINCUSAREUR, while serving at Central Army Group (NATO). In this role, Bri served as the Deputy G-3 / Joint Air Land Fire Support Coordinator for four Allied Corps in Central Europe. From these distinguished mentors and assignments Bri has gained a broad vision of military and world events and has gained a reputation, in his own right, of being a strategic thinker, and a leader who rolls up his sleeves and gets things done. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, the Army War College, Psychological Warfare School, the NATO Joint Warfare School, and others.

Two military career highlights were assignments as Battalion Commander, Field Artillery School Brigade at Ft. Sill, OK (1979-82) where he developed and conducted leadership training programs for FA Officer Basic and Advanced Course Student, then later, as Professor of Military Science at Augusta State University, Georgia (1982-85), where he brought an ROTC program from absolute last place among 112 schools, when he arrived, to the top third in the leadership, training, and performance competition.

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Retiring from active duty in July 1989, Bri taught Political Science at Augusta State University for one year before relocating to Huntsville, Alabama.

In Huntsville, he worked 14 Years in the research, development and testing, and modernization planning for Army Tactical Missiles and National Missile Defense systems. Bri's special talents involve long range and strategic planning. He led the Policy Planning Committee that developed the 21st Century Strategic Plan for the Military Order of the World Wars.

After retirement from active service, Bri served in posts of increasing responsibility in the Military Order of the World Wars and was elected as the 73rd Commander-in-Chief during 2003-2004. Bri has also taken an active role in the development of the MOWW Youth Leadership Program and under his leadership his chapter has raised money, sponsored students, and initiated two successful 4-day Youth Leadership Conferences at the US Rocket and Space Center, Huntsville, AL, for High School students. Bri is an active speaker and has published many articles in the "Officer Review" and the local media.

In March 2004, at their Annual Board of Trustees meeting, Bri was elected as Chairman of the Board of Patriotic Education, Inc. (PEI), a voluntary, unpaid position he currently holds, as he works to revitalize the teaching of the Enduring values of the American Democracy to the next generation of Americans.

A former Eagle Scout, his Military honors include the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, two awards of the Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four awards of the Army Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Honor Medal 1st Class, and the Army Parachutist Badge. He was elected to the Field Artillery Ancient Order of St. Barbara, and also he holds various service ribbons, campaign medals and unit awards from the Vietnam Conflict. He was honored by the MOWW with the Award of the Patrick Henry Gold Medal, their highest award for Patriotism, in January 2005. He was recently honored by the Reserve Officer's Association by investiture as a modern Knight Templar in the Grand Priory of the Americas, Priory of St. Joan of Arc. Bri is working with others to assist the Argentine and other Latin American militaries to better understand the role of the military in a freely elected, civilian led Democracy. Bri belongs to many civic and military associations and is a life member of AUSA, ROA, NDIA, FA Association, and The MOWW.

"Bri" and his spouse Margo Chabot have a daughter, Linda who is a Computer Systems Analyst with DynCorps at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. Margo is active in the Huntsville community as a Red Cross and Meals-on-Wheels Volunteer and also does volunteer work with the Care and Assistance for the Senior and Aging (CASA) organization. Earlier Margo was awarded the Artillery Order of Molly Pitcher for her community work in the Lawton-Ft. Sill, Oklahoma community.