

William M. Matz, Jr., Major General, USA (Ret.)

Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission

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Date Appointed to the Commission: September 27, 2005.

Work Experience: Upon retirement from the Army in 1995, Commissioner Matz worked eight years in the defense industry. He was first employed by Raytheon Company where he moved from a Program Manager to Vice President, Army Programs. Upon leaving Raytheon, he took over as Program General Manager for Vinnell/Northrop Grumman's Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, returning to the United States in 2004.

Commissioner Bill Matz currently serves as the President of the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS). NAUS was founded in 1968 and is the only military association that represents the entire military/veteran family. NAUS represents all seven branches of the uniformed services including Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration including all components (active duty, Reserve, National Guard), retired and other veterans, their families and their survivors, and all grades and ranks – both enlisted and officer.

Military Service: Upon his graduation from Gettysburg College, Commissioner Matz was commissioned as a second lieutenant and assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division. Following this initial assignment, he served along the demilitarized zone of Korea with the 1st Cavalry Division and 2nd Infantry Division successively as a rifle company commander and battalion S3. Upon his return from Korea, he was assigned to the Ranger Department, U. S. Army Infantry School. In 1967 he arrived in Vietnam and served as a rifle company commander with the 9th Infantry Division in the Mekong Delta, where he was wounded in action during the 1968 Tet Offensive.

Upon return from Vietnam, he was assigned as Assistant Professor of Military Science, ROTC Department, Middlebury College, Vermont. Commissioner Matz returned to WESTPAC in 1970, where as Plans/Special Operations Officer on the Afloat Staff, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet, he participated in amphibious operations along the Vietnam coast. In 1973, he was assigned to the Army Staff, Pentagon, as a strategic planner and Directorate Executive Officer until assuming command of the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division in 1977. In 1980 he returned to the 82nd Airborne Division and served as Division G3 from 1980 to 1982. Following this assignment, he returned to Korea where

he served as Chief, Force Development Division, G3/J3, Eighth Army/U.S. Forces Korea Staff.

In 1983, he assumed command of the 4th Training Brigade, U.S. Army Armor School. Upon relinquishing command in 1985, he returned to the Army Staff as Deputy Director, Training Directorate. This was followed by a tour of duty as Executive Secretary to the Secretary of Defense. In 1988, he became the ADC(S), 7th Infantry Division (Light), and deployed with the Division to Panama on Operation JUST CAUSE. MG Matz assumed duties as the Deputy Commanding General, U. S. Army Pacific in 1990. He then served as the Deputy Commanding General and interim Commanding General of First Corps and Fort Lewis from 1992 until his retirement from the U.S. Army in 1995.

Medals for Valor & Awards for Outstanding Service: Among his awards are the Distinguished Service Cross; Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Distinguished Service Medal; Silver Star; Legion of Merit (with three Oak Leaf Clusters); Bronze Star for Valor; Purple Heart; and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Educational Attainment: Commissioner Matz is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Airborne and Ranger Courses the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. He received a BA degree in Political Science from Gettysburg College and a MA degree in Political Science from the University of San Diego.

Personal: Commissioner Matz was born in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Linda, reside in Great Falls, Virginia, and are the parents of three married children.