

Ronald Craig Bunch enlisted in the US Army 7 September 1961 and completed the EOD Technician Course at Indianhead, MD in April 1962. His first duty assignment was the 69th Ordnance Detachment (EOD), Valley Forge General Hospital, Pennsylvania from April 1962 to June 1963

The 69th's primary mission was supporting all Nike Ajax and Nike Hercules missile sites in the multi-state Delaware Valley Area, plus EOD support throughout Delaware and the ten eastern counties of Pennsylvania. Local law enforcement did not have their own EOD capability, so the 69th frequently provided hazardous device recognition training. Most of the 69th's work was disposal of Nike components, IEDs and war trophies, mostly from World War II and Korea. In June 1963, Ron was reassigned to Tech Site 3, 15th Chemical, Group, US Army Europe as a Chemical EOD Technician, serving there until late 1964.

Commissioned from Infantry OCS on 13 May 1965, 2LT Bunch completed parachute training at Fort Benning and joined the 82nd Airborne Division in the Dominican Republic during Operation Power Pack. Serving as a platoon leader, commander, S1 and S4 with the 82nd until February 1968, CPT Bunch then completed the fixed wing, rotary wing, aircraft maintenance officer, maintenance test pilot and AH-1G Cobra attack helicopter courses. In Vietnam 1969-1970, he flew fixed wing and helicopter missions throughout the theater. Later aviation service included command of the US Army Aviation Detachment, RAF Burtonwood, England; Aviation Materiel Officer, III Corps and Fort Hood; Commander, C Troop, 34th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Brigade (Air Combat) until final assignment to US Army Europe in September 1979.

Selected to develop an armored sedan program for protection of key general officers against the Red Army Faction, then MAJ Bunch worked directly with the USAREUR Provost Marshal, German manufacturers and law enforcement agencies to develop specifications, expedite procurement and train drivers and protective details. Intending to retire at the first opportunity and pursue business opportunities in Europe, his retirement was approved on the same day the CINCUSAREUR's borrowed Mercedes was attacked. Before retiring 31 October 1981, Major Bunch agreed to continue in the same position as a civilian until the program had been expanded and standardized. He remained in Germany and operated a privately owned security equipment and training business for several years.

In 1987, Mr. Bunch was recruited by the Helicopter Association International as Director of Heliports and Technical Programs. As a consultant, registered lobbyist, spokesman for the international helicopter industry and writer for Rotor Magazine, he traveled worldwide until 1991, leaving to focus on his own international business and life.

A 1972 graduate of Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC, where he majored in accounting, economics and German, Ron has since been a hobbyist graduate student of business, languages and theology at several universities in Europe and the United States.