

General Fred M. Franks, Jr. United States Army, Retired



General Fred Franks began his active duty military career after graduating from the United States Military Academy on 3 June 1959 and retired from active Army service 1 December 1994. During his service, General Franks commanded Armored Cavalry units at platoon, troop, squadron, and regimental levels from early 1960 to 1984. General Franks served in combat in Vietnam until being medically evacuated in May 1970 after being wounded in action in Cambodia. After having his leg amputated below the knee and rehabilitation at Valley Forge General Hospital, he was permitted to remain on active duty and returned to active service in early 1972. In Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, General Franks commanded the 146,000 US and British forces as part of the Coalition that liberated Kuwait in February 1991. He concluded his active service as Commanding General Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) from 1991-1994, responsible for the U.S. Army's school system and for formulating concepts and requirements for future land warfare.

Since retiring, General Franks has continued work in public service and as an advocate for Wounded Warriors. He has taught and mentored strategic and senior tactical level leadership, mentored senior officers, and has been mentor to Army studies on training and leader development. General Franks also serves on a corporate Board. He collaborated with Tom Clancy on a book, *Into the Storm: A Study in Command*, first published in 1997 with two additional chapters added and the latest edition published 2007.

General Franks has served as a senior advisor with Veterans Outreach for the Red Sox Foundation-Massachusetts General Hospital Home Base Program, volunteers as the Chairman of the Board of VII Corps Desert Storm Veterans Association, has been appointed to serve voluntarily on the Defense Health Board, and has chaired the Limb Loss Panel of that Defense Health Board. In September 2001 President George W. Bush appointed him to serve voluntarily on the American Battle Monuments Commission and became the ninth Chairman of ABMC in January 2005, serving in that capacity until January 2009. General Franks also frequently speaks publicly on leadership and public service.

General Franks holds two Master Degrees from Columbia University in New York City, an honorary Master of Military Art and Science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and an honorary Doctor of Humanities from Albright College in Reading, PA. He successfully completed U.S. Army Airborne and Ranger training, as well as military service schools to include the National War College. He received four awards for valor, two Purple Hearts, numerous military awards for service, and individual decorations and awards from foreign governments, his native Pennsylvania, and the Harry S. Truman Good Neighbor Award

Foundation in Kansas City. He was elected to the Athletic Hall of Fame and named a Distinguished Alumni by his hometown Wilson High School, and elected in 2004 to the Berks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. In May 2000, the Association of Graduates named him a Distinguished Graduate of West Point. In May 2008 he was inducted into the Ft. Leavenworth Hall of Fame. In March 2011 he received the Guardian of Liberty Award presented by the West Point Society of Philadelphia at the Union League in Philadelphia.