

HOME ADDRESS: 411 K Street, Cheney,
Washington 99004

BORN: Spokane, Washington, 10 February
1922

SCHOOLS: LLB, Gonzaga University, 1951;
Infantry Officer Candidate School, 1942;
Command and General Staff College, Extension
Course, 1961, Phase X, 1964, Combat
Division Refresher Course, 1965; Infantry
School, Brigade Staff Officer Refresher
Course, 1969.



BRIGADIER GENERAL MERRITT A. JOHNSON

Commanding General, 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) (Separate)

Washington Army National Guard

General Johnson enlisted in the Washington National Guard in January 1938. He entered Federal service in September 1940. He was sent to Hawaii in December 1941. He returned to the United States in April 1942 and attended Officer Candidate School obtaining a commission as a second lieutenant in August 1942. He was promoted to first lieutenant in September 1942 serving as a Personnel Officer with the 55th Armored Infantry Battalion, Camp Polk, Louisiana. In April 1943, he was promoted to captain and assigned as Intelligence Officer with the 63d Armored Infantry Battalion, Camp Cooke, California. He was sent to the European Theater of Operations with the 63d Armored Infantry Battalion in November 1944. He was with the unit through France, Belgium and Germany. He returned to the United States in August 1945. He was released from active duty in June 1946.

General Johnson was promoted to major in the Army Reserve in December 1946. He returned to the Washington National Guard in July 1948 as a major and has held assignments of Intelligence Officer, Regimental Executive Officer, Battalion Commander, Deputy Battle Group Commander, and Chief of Staff in the 41st Infantry Division. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in February 1950 and to colonel in June 1961. After the reorganization of the National Guard in December 1967, he became the Deputy Brigade Commander of the 81st Infantry Brigade. In October 1969, he was appointed Commander of the 115th Transportation Group. In December 1970, General Johnson assumed his present assignment as Brigade Commander, 81st Infantry Brigade. He was promoted and federally recognized as a brigadier general on 31 May 1972.