

COMMANDER, 81ST INFANTRY BRIGADE (MECHANIZED)

Brigadier General Richard D. Read was born in Santa Barbara, California on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1947. He is a graduate of Oregon State University and received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Program in June, 1969. His military education includes; Field Artillery Officer's Basic and Advance Courses, Ranger School, Field Artillery Ballistic Missile Officer Course, Command and General Staff College, CGSC Separate Brigade/Armored Cavalry Regiment Refresher, Total Quality Management, the United States Army War College and the Brigade Pre-Command Course.

Brigadier General Read served six years on active duty, which included tours with 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 40<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, 199<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade; 2d Bn 32d FA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Force, Artillery and 23<sup>rd</sup> Artillery Group, 2d Field Force Artillery in the Republic of South Viet Nam; and 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 81<sup>st</sup> FA, 56<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Brigade (PSG) Neu-Ulm, Germany. He transferred into the Washington Army National Guard from the United States Army Reserve Control Group in 1975, assuming the position of Supply Officer, Headquarters, State Area Command-Washington (STARC-WA).

Brigadier General Read served subsequent positions in the Washington Army National Guard as Liaison Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 146<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, Battery Commander, Battery B, 2-146<sup>th</sup> FA, Battery Commander, Service Battery, 2-146<sup>th</sup> FA, various staff positions in 2-146<sup>th</sup> FA, Battalion Commander, 2-146<sup>th</sup> FA, Executive Officer, 81<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), Facilities Management Officer, HQ STARC-WA, Deputy Chief of Staff Operations, HQ STARC-WA, Chief of Staff, HQ STARC-WA, Deputy Brigade Commander, 81<sup>st</sup> Separate Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) and Brigade Commander, 81<sup>st</sup> Separate Infantry Brigade (Mechanized).

Brigadier General Read's awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak-leaf clusters, the Air Medal with numeral 4, the Army Commendation Medal with two oak-leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, Washington State Legion of Merit, Washington State Commendation Medal, Aircraft Crewman Badge, The Ranger Tab, and various Viet Nam service medals and other active duty and reserve service medals, awards and ribbons.

Brigadier General Read resides in Olympia, Washington with his wife, Mary. He is employed by the State of Washington, as the Capital Management Director for the Military Department.



## Biography

# National Guard Bureau

General Officer Management Office, Arlington, VA

## BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD D. READ



### Commander, 81st Infantry Brigade

Brigadier General Rick Read assumed duties as the Commander, 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) on October 1, 1999. As the brigade commander he is responsible for the Readiness and Mobilization preparedness of a separate heavy brigade consisting of two Armor Battalions, one Mechanized Infantry Battalion, one direct support Field Artillery Battalion, one combat Engineer Battalion, one forward Support Battalion, one Military Intelligence Company, one Cavalry Troop, one Air Defense Artillery Battery and a Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

The General's military career began in June 1969 when he received his commission from Army ROTC at Oregon State University. He served six years on active duty which included tours with the 199th

Separate Infantry Brigade (Light) and 23rd Field Artillery Group in Vietnam and with the 56th Field Artillery Brigade in Germany. He joined the Washington Army National Guard in September 1975 serving in assignments with the 2d Battalion 146th Field Artillery, the 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) and State Headquarters. Prior to his current assignment he served as Deputy Commander, 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) and Chief of Staff, WAARNG.

### EDUCATION:

1969 Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon - BS - History/Military Science  
1981 Command and General Staff College  
1995 U.S. Army War College

## **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Jul 69 - Oct 69, Student, Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma
2. Oct 69 - Dec 69, Student, U.S. Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia
3. Mar 70 - Jul 70, Forward Observer, Battery B, 2-40 Field Artillery, 199th Infantry Brigade (Separate), Republic of Vietnam
4. Jul 70 - Sep 70, Assistant Executive Officer/Fire Direction Officer, Battery B, 2-140 Field Artillery, 199th Infantry Brigade (Separate), Republic of Vietnam
5. Oct 70 - Jan 71, Executive Officer, Battery B, 2-32 Field Artillery, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, Republic of Vietnam
6. Jan 71 - Mar 71, Air Observer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 23 Artillery Group, Republic of Vietnam
7. Mar 71 - Jun 71, Student, Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma
8. Jul 71 - Mar 73, Firing Platoon Commander, Battery B, 1-81 Field Artillery, 56th Field Artillery Brigade (PSG)
9. Mar 73 - Jun 74, Recon/Survey Officer/Assistant S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1-81 Field Artillery, 56th Field Artillery Brigade (PSG)
10. Jul 74 - Jun 75, Student, Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma
11. Jul 75 - Sep 75, USAR Control Group
12. Oct 75 - Oct 76, Supply Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, STARC-Washington, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington
13. Oct 76 - Jan 77, Liaison Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2-146 Field Artillery, Vancouver, Washington
14. Feb 77 - Aug 79, Battery Commander, Battery B, 2-146 Field Artillery, Vancouver, Washington
15. Sep 79 - Aug 81, Battery Commander, Service Battery, 2-146 Field Artillery, Vancouver, Washington
16. Jul 81 - Dec 81, Student, Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
17. Aug 81 - May 82, Battalion S-2, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 2-146 Field Artillery, Olympia, Washington
18. Jun 82 - Dec 82, Battalion Fire Support Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 2-146 Field Artillery, Olympia, Washington
19. Jan 83 - Aug 84, Brigade Fire Support Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 2-146 Field Artillery, Olympia, Washington
20. Sep 84 - Dec 85, Battalion S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 2-146 Field Artillery, Olympia, Washington
21. Jan 86 - Apr 88, Battalion Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 2-146 Field Artillery, Olympia, Washington
22. May 88 - Aug 91, Battalion Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery (-), 2-146 Field Artillery, Olympia, Washington
23. Sep 91 - Aug 92, Brigade Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), Seattle, Washington
24. Sep 92 - May 94, Facilities Management Officer, Headquarters, STARC-Washington, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington

- 25. Jun 94 - Sep 96, DCSOPS, Headquarters, STARC-Washington, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington
- 26. Oct 96 - Sep 98, Chief of Staff, Headquarters, STARC-Washington, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington
- 27. Oct 98 - Sep 99, Deputy Brigade Commander, 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), Seattle, Washington
- 28. Oct 99 - Present, Commander, 81st Infantry Brigade (Mechanized), Seattle, Washington

### **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

Legion of Merit  
Bronze Star Medal  
Meritorious Service Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters)  
Air Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters)  
Army Commendation Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters)  
Army Achievement Medal  
Aircraft Crewmember Badge  
Ranger Tab

### **CIVILIAN OCCUPATION:**

Capitol Management Director, Military Department, State of Washington

### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTIONS:**

2LT RA 8 Jun 69  
1LT AUS 8 Jun 70  
CAPT AUS 4 Jun 71  
CAPT ARNG 1 Oct 75  
MAJ ARNG 9 Mar 83  
LTC ARNG 17 Feb 88  
COL ARNG 1 Sep 92  
BG (LINE) ARNG 31 Mar 00

(Current As of February 2001)

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