

Brig. Gen. (Ret) Oscar Hilman

Brigadier General Oscar Bautista Hilman was born in Libmanan, Camarines Sur, Republic of the Philippines. He immigrated to the United States and became a Washington Resident in 1968. He graduated from Central Washington University and joined the United States Army and the Active Guard Reserve of the Washington National Guard.

He was commissioned an Armor Officer through the Officer Candidate School in 1977 and assigned as the Platoon Leader for Echo Troop, 303rd Cavalry Squadron and then as the Mortar Platoon Leader for the for the 1st Battalion, 803rd Armor Regiment. He commanded the Combat Support Company for the Battalion and then after being promoted to Major was the Executive Officer in the same Battalion. After an assignment as the S-3, Operations Officer, for the 81st Armored Brigade, he was given command of the 144th Boat Battalion (only Boat Battalion in the Reserve Component) with 57 boats and subsequently the 3rd Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment.

After assignments as the G-3 and US Property and Fiscal Officer for the Washington National Guard, he was the Commanding General of the 81st Armored Brigade during OIF 03. In this capacity he mobilized trained and deployed the brigade to Iraq, which was the first mobilization and deployment for the 81st Brigade since World War II. The 81st Armored Brigade was the first National Guard Brigade level organization to cross the border into Iraq during the Global War on Terror. Upon his return to Washington in 2005, he was assigned as the Deputy Commanding General for I Corps and Fort Lewis until his retirement in 2007.

BG Hilman's military education includes a number of leadership, management and resource management courses, Armor Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms Services Staff Course, Tank Commander Course, Total Quality Awareness Course, and the US Army Command and General Staff College, where he received his Masters of Science Degree in Strategic Science.

His military awards and decorations include: Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Combat Action Badge.

His civilian accolades include: the 2010 American by Choice Award

BG Hilman serves as former Chairman of Advisory Committee of Minority Veterans (2012-2014), Chairman of JBLM Retiree Council, and President of Filipino Community Alliance of Tacoma, Advisor, Asian American Pacific Islander, member of PPALM, Board Member, Madigan Foundation and lifetime member of the PSHS. He is a lifetime member of Association of US

Army, lifetime member of US Army War College, and lifetime member of National Guard Association of US. He belongs to numerous community service and veterans organization.

BG Hilman resides in Tacoma, Washington with his wife Patty. They have four children and nine grandchildren. He enjoys playing golf in his spare time.