

## BIOGRAPHY

## LIEUTENANT GENERAL VERNON A. WALTERS

Vernon A. Walters was born in New York City on 3 January 1917. He lived abroad with his parents and attended St Louis Gonzaga School in Paris, France, and Stonyhurst College in England.

His military career, most of which was spent in Intelligence, began on 2 May 1941 when he entered the Army as an enlisted man. His first assignment was with the 187th Field Artillery at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. In early 1942 he attended the Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry on 29 May 1942. He was assigned to the 85th Division as Platoon Leader of the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon of Headquarters Company, 338th Infantry. Subsequently, he was given additional duty of Regimental S-2.

Late in 1942, he was assigned to the Military Intelligence Training Center at Camp Ritchie, Maryland, and went overseas with the 9th Infantry Division, taking part in the assault landing at Safi in Morocco on 8 November 1942. For his part in this action, he was awarded the Legion of Merit and promoted to 1st Lieutenant. After serving in Algeria and Tunisia, he returned to the United States as Chief of Section at the Intelligence School at Camp Ritchie. While serving there, he attended the Special Course for Brazilian Officers at the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth in 1943. Subsequently, he returned to Italy, serving as Aide to General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army. Upon the arrival of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force in Italy, Captain Walters was assigned as Combat Liaison Officer with the 1st Brazilian Infantry Division, remaining with them until the end of the war. He was then assigned as Assistant Army Attache in Brazil. He served there from 1945 to 1948.

During the visits of President Truman, General Marshall and General Eisenhower, he served as Aide to interpret for them. In April 1948, he went to the 9th Pan American Conference at Bogota as Aide to General Marshall, then Secretary of State. During this conference, a revolt occurred in which Fidel Castro was involved. For his work at Bogota, Lieutenant Colonel Walters received the Army Commendation

Ribbon. In June 1948 he was assigned to Ambassador Averell Harriman as Assistant Military Attache-at-Large with duty station in Paris, and in 1949 he was appointed Army Attache-at-Large. Returning to the United States with Ambassador Harriman in June 1950, he became Military Assistant to the Special Assistant to the President. At this time, he accompanied Governor Harriman to Korea and to the meeting between President Truman and General MacArthur at Wake Island. In January 1951 he accompanied General Eisenhower on his visit to twelve NATO countries, and in February 1951 he was assigned to SHAPE Headquarters in Paris.

He served there as Assistant Executive for National Military Representatives and, subsequently, as Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and Administration. He also served as Assistant to the President at the Geneva Conference in 1953. Returning to the United States in January 1955, he was assigned to the U.S. Element of the NATO Standing Group as Public Information Officer and Special Projects Officer. During this period, he had additional duties as Staff Assistant to the President of the United States, accompanying President Eisenhower on all of his foreign trips and Vice President Nixon on his trip to South America in 1958.

In early 1960 he attended a Guided Missile Course at Fort Bliss, Texas, and a Nuclear Course at Sandia, New Mexico. In May 1960 he was ordered to Rome as Army Attache, serving there until October 1962 when he was transferred to Rio de Janeiro as Army Attache. In 1967 he served briefly in Vietnam where he was awarded the Air Medal. Subsequently, he served as Defense Attache to France until early 1972. He accompanied President Nixon on his trip to France, Belgium, Germany, Italy and Spain in 1969, and also accompanied Mrs. Nixon during her visit to the earthquake-stricken areas of Peru in June 1970. In late 1971 he accompanied President Nixon to the Azores.

Major General Walters was nominated by the President to be Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and to the grade of Lieutenant General on 2 March 1972 and confirmed by the Senate on 10 April 1972.

PERSONAL DATA

Born: 3 January 1917, New York City  
Father: Frederick J. Walters (deceased)  
Mother: Laura P. Walters (deceased)  
Brothers: Frederick J. Walters - Atlanta  
          Vincent C. Walters - New York  
Sister: Mrs. Laureen Jones - Baltimore

Marital Status: Single

Official Address: c/o The Adjutant General, Department of the  
Army, Washington, D. C. 20025

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF PROMOTIONS

2d Lt	29 May 1942
1st Lt	30 Dec 1942
Capt	20 Apr 1943
Major	30 Sep 1944
Lt Col	3 Nov 1950
Col	25 Apr 1960
Brig Gen	1 Feb 1965
Maj Gen	1 Feb 1968
Lt Gen	10 Apr 1972

CITATIONS AND DECORATIONS

Distinguished Service Medal  
Legion of Merit (1 Oak Leaf Cluster)  
Bronze Star  
Air Medal  
Army Commendation

SERVICE MEDALS

American Defense Service Medal  
American Campaign Medal

SERVICE MEDALS (Cont'd)

European Theatre Medal  
World War II Victory Medal  
Army Occupation Medal (Germany)  
National Defense Service Medal  
Vietnam Campaign Medal

FOREIGN DECORATIONS

France: Officer of the Legion of Honor  
Croix de Guerre with Palms

Brazil: Combat Cross  
Order of Military Merit  
War Medal  
Campaign Cross  
Southern Cross

Italy: Bronze Medal of Valor  
Commander of the Crown of Italy  
Commander of Order of Merit of Italian Republic

Peru: Grand Cross of Order of Merit

Portugal: Military Merit

Spain: Military Merit

BADGES

DOD  
White House

RELIGION

Roman Catholic

PERSONAL BACKGROUND MATERIAL

General Walters is interested in languages, history, and subways. He speaks French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch and Russian. He enjoys swimming, skiing and chess.