

Our Commandant—Our Good Friend—Retires

With the publication of this issue, Brigadier General Stuart R. Boyd, Commandant of the Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management and the Air Force Institute of Technology, leaves us and the Air Force for a “retirement” assignment in the Ogden, Utah area.

General Boyd has had an interesting and exciting career. After graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1961 he completed pilot training and was assigned as an instructor pilot at Craig Air Force Base, AL. In August 1966 he attended F-4 upgrade training and was assigned to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, where he flew 107 combat missions over Southeast Asia. Upon his return to the U.S. he was assigned as an F-4 instructor pilot at Homestead Air Force Base, Fla.

In 1969 he graduated from the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, CA and was assigned to the fighter test branch where he was involved in the F-111 flight test and supercritical wing test program with NASA. After completing Air Command and Staff College in 1974 he was assigned to Clark Air Base, Philippines. He was then transferred to the Pentagon as an F-16 staff officer and program manager.

Upon graduation from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 1980, General Boyd was assigned as director of projects in the F-16 Program Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. In that capacity he managed the F-16C/D development programs, as well as the prototype program for the F-16XL. In 1982 he became the F-16 systems program manager at the Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill Air Force Base, UT, and was a member of the F-16 Multinational Fighter Program management team.

In 1984 he returned to Wright-Patterson as the commander of the International Logistics Center and special assistant to the commander for international logistics at Headquarters, Air Force Logistics Command. He assumed his present duties in July 1987.

General Boyd’s accomplishments in nearly four years as the commandant of DISAM are extensive. He has initiated several major, new programs, most notably the Foreign Military Sales symposium. This two-day program for government, industry, and international leaders has been very successful and has contributed immensely to greater government-industry understanding and cooperation in security assistance matters.

Additionally, as a result of his efforts, the DISAM curriculum for the overseas security assistance community was restructured and streamlined. This included the development of specialized tracks of instruction to satisfy the needs of distinct groups of students. Also, as a related effort, DISAM assisted the Defense Security Assistance Agency (DSAA) in developing a long range planning system known as the Tailored Training Approach (TTA) which has substantially improved student preparation for overseas security assistance assignments.

In the summer of 1990 when DISAM was tasked by the Director, DSAA, to head up the initial needs assessment phase of a major project called the Security Assistance Database and Worldwide Communications Network, General Boyd took charge and selected a DISAM cadre to work with DSAA, and further coordinated the support of computer system analysts with the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT).

General Boyd’s support for DISAM has been complete in every way, and he will be missed. We all join in wishing him well on his new journey.

The DISAM Faculty and Staff