



Biography

Major General Williams was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. His formative years were spent in Reading and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He received a B.S degree from Slippery Rock University, PA, in 1975. Following Officer Candidate School, he received his commission in March 1976. He received Master's degrees from Georgetown University in Government and National Security Affairs in 1981, from Yale University in Hospital Management/Public Health in 1984, and from the U.S. Army War College in International Security Studies in 2000. He has completed advanced school and class work at the US Army War College in the Combined Joint Force Land Component Commander Course; and at George Washington University's National Security Program in Defense Policy. Currently, he is in the process of working on his Master's Degree in Computer Engineering and Computer Science.

Following a short tour with the Officer Selection Office in Pittsburgh, PA, he served with the 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, as a Rifle Platoon Leader and the Super Squad Platoon. Returning from overseas in January 1978, he reported to 2nd Force Troops (now 2nd Marine Logistics Group), as the Assistant Command Inspector. He was later assigned as a Force Recon Platoon Leader to 2nd Force Reconnaissance Company.

In 1979, he was transferred to Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. He was promoted to Captain in 1980. During this tour he served as Ceremonial Platoon Leader; White House Presidential Military Social Aide to Presidents Carter and Reagan; coach of the Barracks boxing team; Head, The Basic School Correspondence Course, Marine Corps Institute; and attended graduate school at Georgetown University from 1979 to 1981. He completed the Amphibious Warfare Non-Resident Course in 1980.

In 1981, he was assigned to the Reserve component of the Marine Corps and was assigned to duty with the 14th Marines where he served with 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines, 4th Marine Division as a Forward Observer, Battery Executive Officer, Battery Commanding Officer, and Battalion Logistics Officer. While with the 14th Marines, in 1986, he was the recipient of the Outstanding Junior Marine Corps Reserve Officer Award presented by the Reserve Officers Association. He was promoted to Major in 1987. He also completed graduate school at Yale University during this period.

He was then assigned to the 4th Reconnaissance Battalion in 1988, where he served as the Battalion Operations and Training Officer, Battalion Diving Officer, and Executive Officer. During 1990-1991, the Battalion was called to duty for Operation Desert Shield/Storm. One reconnaissance company was assigned to lead the reconnaissance efforts for both the 1st and 2nd Divisions in their attacks on Iraq. The remainder of the Battalion was assigned to conduct counter-narcotics operations in CONUS and OCONUS. In 1991, he attended the Marine Corps

Reserve Command and Staff College Course as a student.

In 1992, he was assigned to the 4th Marine Division as Assistant Operations Officer. In 1993, he completed the Air Command and Staff College Reserve Component Course. In October 1993, he was assigned as the Assistant G-6. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1994. In 1995, he was assigned as Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines. In 1997, the battalion was assigned to the 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division for Kernal Blitz '97. He was selected in 1997, to attend the U.S. Army War College Distant Education Program. He was promoted to Colonel in 1998.

He was then selected and assigned to be the Deputy Commander, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation Command Element (I MACE) in 2000. In 2000, he graduated from the U.S. Army War College. In 2002, while in this assignment he was assigned as the Deputy Director, Operations CJTF-180, conducting combat operations in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. He was selected for promotion and promoted to Brigadier General January 2003.

From 2003-2005 he served as the Commander, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force Augmentation Command Element (I MACE), during this period he served as the Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton.

Major General James Williams' is currently assigned as the Commanding General, 4th Marine Division since April 2007. The 4th Marine Division is the largest infantry division in the US military and consists of nearly 22,000 Marines, Sailors, and civilians. The Division is spread over the entire US countryside, and extends from Hawaii to Maine, and from Alaska to South Florida. His previous position was as the Assistant Division Commander, 2nd Marine Division which began in November 2006. His previous assignment was as Deputy Commanding General (Mobilization), Marine Corps Combat Development Command. He also directed combat operations as the Assistant Division Commander, 2d Marine Division from 2005-2006, at Camp Blue Diamond, Ar-Ramadi, Iraq. During this time he was directly responsible for the sensitive negotiations with insurgents and terrorist groups to get them to stop fighting and cooperate with the building of Iraq. He got them to sign the Al-Anbar Security Agreement that eventually greatly reduced the fighting in Al-Anbar Province. He was earlier assigned with I Marine Expeditionary Force as the Deputy Commanding General in Fallujah, Iraq from 2004-2005, and in Afghanistan directed and coordinated all combat operations against the Taliban terrorists, as the Deputy Director of Operation for CJTF-180. He also currently serves on the Secretary of Defense's Reserve Force Policy Board located at the Pentagon. He was selected for promotion to Major General in December of 2005, and promoted in June 2007.

In the civilian business and corporate world Major General Williams has held a number of significant positions in different industries. He has built and run hospitals as the Chief Operating Officer in Kentucky and Texas with Humana, EPIC Healthcare, and HealthTrust; he assisted Ross Perot in starting operations in development of corporate information systems for healthcare organizations at Perot Systems as a Principle Associate; he was the Chief Information Officer for EmCare, the largest emergency physician management company in the US; he has been the Chief Information Officer and Chief Technology Officer for software company Emergisoft; he was the President, Strategic Alliances for software security company bTrade, Inc.; he has been responsible for international engineering development for classified systems for various defense contractors; and he has worked in international global trade consulting roles

for numerous multi-national corporations doing business with China, Vietnam, the Western Pacific region, the Middle East, Africa, and Central and South America. He is deeply involved in local, national, and global political issues as well. He is a member of a number of professional associations in academics, technology, military affairs, world trade, and global business forums.