

Maj. Gen. Robert Leonard Drudik



Inducted November 13, 2003

May 1933 - 1996

Staff Officer, then Hardware Action Officer,
and later Assistant Chief of Staff for Force
Development
Pentagon, 1974-1965

Chief, Infantry Operations Force
Development Branch
Pentagon, 1974-1977

Combat Developments Command Infantry
Agency
Fort Benning, Georgia, 1968-1970

Commander, Experimentation Support
Command
U.S. Army Combat Developments
Experimentation Command
Fort Ord, California, 1977-1979

Assistant DCSOPS-Training
FORSCOM, 1984-1986

Commanding General, U.S. Army Training
and Doctrine Test and Experimentation
Command
Fort Hood, TX 1986-1989

Maj. Gen. Robert L. Drudik is distinguished in the Operational Testers' Hall of Fame for his exceptional service to the credibility of operational testing. Throughout his term as the Commander of the Training and Doctrine Command Combined Arms Test Activity (TCATA) and the subsequent formation of the Training and Doctrine Command Test and Experimentation Command (TEXCOM), Drudik held to his primary tenet, "Truth in

Testing.” He was the first commander to use this as the TEXCOM/OTC motto, and it has become our creed to this day.

Drudik led TCATA and TEXCOM through exciting times with the tests of the early development of the Army's automation efforts, such as the early Maneuver Control System, M1 Abrams battle tank, New Manning System Field Evaluation, large scale brigade-sized chemical force developmental tests such as CANE-IIB, and tests of new radio systems such as the SINCGARS radio system.

TCATA/TEXCOM was assuming control of the branch school test boards, renaming them as test directorates. This organization, with a branch test directorate at each branch school, was one of the most effective in support of TRADOC and the Combat Developer, albeit more expensive than the Army could afford.

One of Drudik's most notable efforts was in the area of medical testing. Having experienced critical wounds in Vietnam, Drudik had very clear ideas on how he felt the Army Medical system could and should be improved to care for wounded soldiers. Drudik personally led a TEXCOM team to the Army Medical Research and Development Command in an unsuccessful attempt to cause Army Medical Command to pay the Air Force to modify the design of the then future C-17 aircraft to be convertible flying hospitals to improve combat evacuation.

Drudik was a true gentleman and warrior, who treated every person, whether a general or a private, with equal regard. He worked tirelessly to ensure operational tests were done correctly and what was reported was truth, supported by fact. Drudik is the epitome of this organization's business and is an icon for all we do and have done over the years in operational testing.