



MAJOR GENERAL DONALD L. EVANS

Retired April 1, 1984. Died Nov. 3, 2000.

Major General Donald L. Evans is the joint program manager for the Worldwide Military Command and Control System Information System, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C. He is the focal point for coordination and control of all Worldwide Military Command and Control System Automatic Data Processing upgrading and modernization activities.

General Evans was born in 1925, in Palmer, Neb. His family later moved to Monrovia, Calif., where he graduated from high school in 1943. He received a bachelor of arts degree in English literature from the University of Southern California in 1949. He completed Squadron Officer School, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., in 1957, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C., in 1971.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in December 1943 and flew 27 combat missions over Europe in World War II as a B-17 waist gunner. On his 27th mission, he was wounded and hospitalized until October 1945. Following discharge from the service as a sergeant, he attended the University of Southern California. After graduation in 1949, he enlisted as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, and in December 1950 was commissioned a second lieutenant upon graduation from Officer Candidate School.

After a short assignment as squadron adjutant for the 3752nd Student Squadron at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, General Evans began navigator training at Ellington Air Force Base, Texas. He was awarded his wings in July 1952. He next completed B-26 combat crew training and in March 1953 was assigned to the 95th Bombardment Squadron at Pusan Air Base, South Korea, where he flew 25 combat missions in B-26s.

From December 1953 to June 1956, General Evans was a B-26 and B-57 navigator in the 461st Bombardment Wing, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, where he became the group and later the wing navigator. He then flew B-47s at Chennault Air Force Base, La., as a navigator on a lead and select combat crew. During this period he also attended Squadron Officer School.

In December 1960 General Evans transferred to Carswell Air Force Base, Texas. After completing B-58 upgrade training, he was assigned on base as chief of the Emergency War Order Operations Branch in the 43rd Bombardment Wing. From April 1964 to June 1966, he served with the inspector general's team at Headquarters Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air

Force Base, Neb., as an intelligence and operations plans inspector.

He was assigned to 3rd Air Division, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, in July 1966, as chief, Plans Division. He later become director of operations plans, with responsibility for Arc Light mission planning for SAC B-52s and KC-135s in Southeast Asia.

In January 1969 General Evans returned to SAC headquarters where he served as chief of the Threat Division and as deputy director of estimates. Upon graduation from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in June 1971, he was assigned as director of intelligence for Task Force Alpha at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, until August 1972. During this period General Evans provided intelligence data for the Commando Hunt VI and VII campaigns. While at Task Force Alpha, he was instrumental in the development of automated sensor readout techniques.

General Evans was again assigned to Offutt Air Force Base as the Strategic Air Command's director of reconnaissance. During the intensive B-52 Linebacker II campaign over North Vietnam in December 1972, he was director of targets. Linebacker II was the air campaign credited with causing North Vietnam to release the American prisoners of war. Following this assignment he become director of estimates. In this capacity General Evans directed several innovative applications of computer-assisted intelligence analysis. In June 1973 he was named assistant deputy chief of staff for intelligence. From May 1975 to June 1978, he served as assistant chief of staff for data systems and was then appointed deputy chief of staff for data systems. He assumed his present duties in January 1982.

He is a master navigator and has flown combat sorties in World War II, and the Korean and Vietnam wars. His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters and Purple Heart.

The general's extensive activity with military automated data processing has placed him in the vanguard of computer technology exploitation. As the SAC single manager for data automation, he had unique responsibility for all resources including personnel, funds and equipment comprising the largest military operational and intelligence computer systems organization in the Air Force. His management authority included all phases of base level data processing as well as the direct computer hardware and software support of the Strategic Air Command, Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff and the Joint Strategic Connectivity Staff.

He was instrumental in the realignment of automated strategic missile warning assets. General Evans' impact on the automation community was documented in 1980 when he was selected as the Federal Government's Automated Data Processing Senior Executive of the Year. He has served as a general officer representative to both the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board and the Defense Science Board regarding automation activities throughout the Defense Department.

He was promoted to major general June 1, 1981, with date of rank Sept. 1, 1977.

His hometown is Arcadia, Calif.

(Current as of May 1982)