



LIEUTENANT GENERAL HARRY A. GOODALL

Retired Feb. 1, 1991. Died Sep. 2, 2006.

Lieutenant General Harry A. Goodall is commander of Allied Air Forces Southern Europe and deputy commander in chief, U.S. Air Forces in Europe for the Southern Area, with headquarters in Naples, Italy.

General Goodall was born in 1932, in Follansbee, W.Va., and graduated from Wellsburg (W.Va.) High School. He earned a bachelor of science degree from the University of Nebraska in 1965, a master of science degree in business administration from George Washington University in 1967 and a master of science degree in public administration from Auburn University in 1974. He completed Squadron Officer School in 1962, Air Command and Staff College in 1967, and Air War College as a distinguished graduate in 1974.

The general began his military career in November 1949. He had eight years' enlisted service, including duties as a first sergeant, in several commands and received his commission from Officer Candidate School in December 1957. General Goodall won his wings in January 1959 and went on to fighter training at Perrin Air Force Base, Texas. His first operational assignment was with the 1st Fighter Wing at Selfridge Air Force Base, Mich., as assistant operations officer and test pilot. He flew operational fighter missions from Florida during the Cuban missile crisis.

General Goodall transferred to the 325th Fighter Wing at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., in March 1964. During the next two years he spent more than 100 days on temporary duty in Alaska, participating in Project White Shoes, an F-106 deployment to intercept Soviet aircraft over Alaskan territories. From August 1967 to September 1969 General Goodall was assigned to the 405th Tactical Fighter Wing in the Philippines. He completed his Southeast Asia tour of duty flying missions from Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, and Da Nang and Bien Hoa air bases, Republic of Vietnam. He then returned to the United States as chief of the Fighter Branch in the Directorate of Operations, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

In June 1974 he was assigned to the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. His job was to phase out all operations, including aircraft and support equipment. Under his command, base personnel strength was reduced from 3,000 to a small cadre of people needed to support the evacuation of Cambodia. In February 1975 General Goodall became commander of the 56th Special Operations Wing at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. During his command the wing was the principal combat unit tasked in the evacuation of Cambodia (Eagle Pull). The operation was conducted from Ubon, the base he had prepared prior to assignment to Nakhon Phanom. The evacuation of Saigon (Frequent Wind) followed and included evacuating the president of South Vietnam, the U.S. ambassador and others. The rescue of the USS Mayaguez and assault on Koh Tang Island in May 1975 marked the last official operation of the wing under General Goodall's command.

The general went to Alaska in July 1975 as vice commander, Alaskan Air Command, deputy commander, Alaskan North American Air Defense Command Region; and commander, Air Force forces. He exercised command over the full spectrum of tactical aircraft and associated command and control systems during many arctic and summer field exercises involving both air and ground forces.

General Goodall returned to the Pentagon in July 1977 as military assistant to the undersecretary of the Air Force, Dr. Hans Mark. He served as assistant deputy director, and deputy director, plans and policy for international negotiations, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, from April 1978 to March 1980. In addition to NATO theater nuclear force modernization, he worked on the full spectrum of arms control negotiations. The president appointed him deputy U.S. commissioner of the U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Limitation Talks Standing Consultative Commission in April 1978. During the final six months of this appointment, he served as commissioner of the U.S. component of the commission with temporary rank of ambassador.

From March 1980 to February 1981 the general served as deputy director of plans in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations, Plans and Readiness at Air Force headquarters, concurrently serving as the U.S. member of the E-3A (AWACS) NATO Airborne Early Warning Program board of directors. General Goodall then became chief of staff for 4th Allied Tactical Air Force at Heidelberg, West Germany. In August 1982 he was named commander of the 17th Air Force, U.S. Air Forces Europe, concurrently holding two NATO commands: commander, Allied Tactical Operations Center, Sembach Air Base, West Germany; and commander, Allied Air Defense Sector 111, Boerfink, West Germany.

From September 1984 to April 1987 General Goodall was deputy commander in chief, U.S. Readiness Command, and vice director, Joint Deployment Agency, at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. He then became deputy commander in chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, which was created by act of Congress to oversee all special operations forces and activities of the Department of Defense. He assumed his present duties in June 1988.

A command pilot, General Goodall has more than 4,000 flying hours in various U.S. Air Force fighter and special operations aircraft, as well as fighter aircraft of allied nations. He flew more than 200 combat missions in Southeast Asia, 42 over North Vietnam. His military decorations and awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with 12 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and two oak leaf clusters and Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm. He also has been awarded the flying wings of the German Luftwaffe and is the recipient of the Freedom Foundation's George Washington Honor Medal. The general wears the Air Force Missile and Parachutist badges.

He was promoted to lieutenant general Sept. 1, 1984, with same date of rank.

(Current as of August 1988)