

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE CIVIL AFFAIRS REGIMENT



COLONEL ELI NOBLEMAN

Inducted July 2012



Col. Eli E. Nobleman was born in Jersey City, N.J. Nobleman enlisted to serve in World War II, and while serving as a member of a Civil Affairs team in Europe, he received a direct commission.

Nobleman, a German linguist, was a member of a Civil Affairs team attached to a division that entered Germany at the end of the war and remained during the occupation. Nobleman remained in Germany, serving in the military government of Bavaria as a court judge.

On his return to the United States and subsequent separation from the Army, Col. Nobleman began his career in

Civil Service, working as an attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. He later became the legal counsel for the U. S. Senate Government Affairs Committee (now Homeland Security and Government Affairs) where he served for many years. On his retirement from government service, he was named Legal Counselor Emeritus for this committee.

He served in Army Reserve Judge Advocate General (JAG) units and in the 300th Civil Affairs Group. In the fall of 1961, he was called to active duty in response to the Berlin Wall Crisis. During this time, he served at Fort Gordon, Ga.

During his World War II Civil Affairs service in Europe, Col. Nobleman made important life-long friendships that served him well in Washington, D.C. Many of the men he served with came to national leadership positions in government and military service. Nobleman was able to reach out to these men to discuss the importance of Civil Affairs to the U.S. military and to our national defense.

For many years, Col. Nobleman was chairman of the Civil Affairs Association's Executive Committee. He also served a term as president of the association. During his service on the executive committee, Col. Nobleman was a key representative for the association, actively and eloquently representing the interests of Army Civil Affairs at the highest levels of government. Col. Nobleman is a recipient of the association's John H. Hilldring Award, which was the association's highest award. The award was later renamed, and is now known as the Eli E. Nobleman Award.

Col. Nobleman was awarded a bachelor of arts, a Juris Doctorate, master of law and doctor of philosophy from New York University. He was a member of the New York and District of Columbia Bar.

His military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Legion of Merit, European Campaign Medal with three campaign stars, Army of Occupation Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the U. S. Special Operations Command Medallion.

Col. Nobleman's wife is the former Elaine Jacobs. The Nobleman's have two daughters: Paula Evans and Hazel Schoem, and three grandchildren, all in the Washington, D.C. area.