

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Thomas Bostick

PERSON

Bostick, Thomas , 1956-

Alternative Names: Bostick, Thomas , 1956-

Life Dates: September 23, 1956-

Place of Birth: Virginia

Residence: Washington, D.C.

Occupations: Lieutenant General, U.S. Army

Biographical Note

U.S. Army Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick was born on September 23, 1956 in Virginia. Bostick was raised in a family with a strong military background. His father was a retired U.S. Army Master Sergeant; his father-in-law, a U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Major; and, his brother, a U.S. Army Colonel. Bostick graduated with his B.A. degree from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1978. He received his M.S. degree in civil engineering and his M.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Stanford University in 1985. He then became a licensed engineer in the State of Virginia in 1988. Bostick's military education includes the U.S. Army Engineer School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College.

In 1978, Bostick was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant and assigned to the 54th Engineer Battalion in Bamberg, Germany where he served in a variety of capacities until 1982. After returning to the United States, Bostick studied at the U.S. Army Engineer School and Stanford University; before becoming an instructor of mechanical engineering at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1985. In 1990, Bostick was

deployed as an engineer operations staff officer of the First Armored Division with the U.S. Army in Europe and the Seventh Army in Germany. He reported to Washington, D.C. in 1993 and served as the executive officer to the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army at the Pentagon, and then was assigned as the deputy director for operations with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the National Military Command Center. Bostick was deployed again from 1997 to 1999 as commander for the Engineer Brigade of the First Armored Division, which included participation in peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina. After being promoted to Brigadier General in 2002, Bostick served as the Commanding General of the Gulf Region Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and later as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command Center at Fort Knox in Kentucky. In April of 2012, Bostick was appointed as the 53rd Chief of Engineers and the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers--making him only the second African American to serve in that position.

Bostick's military honors and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Combat Action Badge, the Parachutist Badge, the Recruiter Badge, and the Ranger Tab. Bostick is also authorized to wear the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Bostick and his wife, Renee Bostick, live in Arlington, Virginia. They have one son, Joshua Bostick.

U.S. Army Lieutenant General Thomas P. Bostick was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on August 9, 2013.

Related Entries

Brother, Kathy [SIBLING OF]
Sister

Bostick, Joshua [PARENT OF]
Son

Bostick, Michael [SIBLING OF]
Brother

Bostick, Anthony [SIBLING OF]
Brother

Bostick, Fumiko [CHILD OF]

Mother

Bostick, Peter [SIBLINGOF]

Brother

Bostick, Sidney [CHILDOF]

Father

Stanford University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to 1985-06]

M.S.

West Point Military Academy [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to 1978-06]

B.A.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) [EMPLOYEEOF]

53rd U.S. Army Chief of Engineers

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) [EMPLOYEEOF]

Commanding General

United States Army [EMPLOYEEOF]

Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, Personnel

United States Army Recruiting Command [EMPLOYEEOF]

Commanding General

United States Army Corps of Engineers [EMPLOYEEOF]

Director of Military Programs

Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq [EMPLOYEEOF]

Commander, Gulf Region Division

Operation Joint Forge, Bosnia-Herzegovina [EMPLOYEEOF]

**Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver), Assistant Division
Commander (Support)**

1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized) [EMPLOYEEOF]

Commander

National Military Command Center, J-3, the Joint Staff in the Pentagon

[EMPLOYEEOF]

Executive Officer to the Chief of Engineers

U.S. Military Academy at West Point [EMPLOYEEOF]

Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering

