



Æviágrip: Edward John McGaw.

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EDWARD JOHN McGAW

Edward J. McGaw was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 13, 1901. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and commissioned a second lieutenant of Field Artillery, July 2, 1920. That same date he was promoted to first lieutenant.

He enrolled in the Field Artillery School at Fort Knox, Kentucky, in September 1920, and upon graduation in August, 1921, became an instructor there. The following October he was ordered to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, for duty with the 13th Field Artillery. He became personnel adjutant of the 13th Field Artillery, in November, 1922, and from August, 1923, to February 1924, served as assistant to the post school officer and instructor at the West Point Preparatory School at Schofield Barracks.

He then returned to the United States as officer in charge of the Hawaiian Department Olympic Boxing Team, and in October, 1924, went to Camp Lewis, Washington, to join the 10th Field Artillery. In August, 1925, he became an instructor at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and five years later was ordered to Fort Bliss, Texas, for duty with the 82nd Field Artillery. He was named adjutant and plans and training officer of the 82nd Field Artillery in July, 1933.

He entered the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in August, 1934, and was graduated in June, 1936. He again served as an instructor (Assistant Professor) at the United States Military Academy from August, 1936, to September, 1939, when he enrolled in the Army War College at Washington, D. C. Upon graduation in June, 1940, he joined the 20th Field Artillery and in October, 1940, was designated operations officer 4th Division Artillery.

In July, 1941, he became commanding officer of the 7th Field Artillery Observation Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He moved to Camp Blanding, Florida, in the same capacity in January, 1942, and to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, the following March. He was assigned as assistant to the chief of the Training Division, Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, at Washington, D.C., in June 1942, and later became assistant to the assistant chief of staff for operations of the Army Ground Forces.

In March, 1943, he became artillery commander of the 63rd Infantry Division at Camp Blanding, Florida. He moved to Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, in the same capacity in August, 1943.

In February, 1945, he was announced as being with that division in France. Actually on January 30 the division took up a defensive position in the line as part of the Seventh Army in the vicinity of Saarguemines, France. On March 17 in the assault of the Siegfried Line just north of Ensheim, the 63rd Division made the first complete break-through. After crossing the Rhine, the 63rd Division completed the capture, on April 1, of Heidelberg.

The 63rd Division was relieved by the 36th Division Artillery on April 30, when the 63rd passed to SHAEF reserve, and in August, 1945, General McGaw returned to the United States and was assigned to the Civil Affairs Division, Office of the Chief of Staff. Six weeks later he was appointed deputy G-3 of the Army Forces in the Western Pacific. In October, 1945, he was appointed G-3 of the Philippines-Ryukyu Command at Manila, Philippine Islands, and in

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February, 1947, became artillery commander of the 11th Airborne Division in Japan. In October, 1947, he was assigned as commandant of the Army Information School at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and retained command when it was redesignated the Armed Forces Information School in June, 1948.

General McGaw was assigned to the Department of the Navy for duty on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic, in February, 1951.

Designated a Unified Commander, General McGaw arrived with the initial units of the Iceland Defense Force, composed of personnel of all three services, at Keflavik Airport, Iceland, on May 7, 1951.

General McGaw has been awarded the Legion of Merit with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with two Clusters, Air Medal, and the Army Commendation Ribbon with one Oak Leaf Cluster. His foreign decorations include the French Croix de Guerre with Palm and the Distinguished Service Star of the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to captain (permanent) on August 1, 1935; to major (permanent) on July 1, 1940; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) on December 11, 1941; to colonel (temporary) on November 18, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) on June 30, 1943; to lieutenant colonel (permanent) on July 2, 1943; to colonel (permanent) on March 11, 1948.

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