

Norvell B DeAtkine Colonel US Army retired

In his 27 - year army career he alternated artillery and Middle East assignments. His artillery assignments included positions at every level of towed and self-propelled units., and as an air defense battery executive officer in Korea. In Vietnam he served in the 1st Infantry Division as an artillery battalion gunnery officer, and battery commander of a heliborne 4.2 mortar battery. Assignments included commander of a Field artillery battalion at Ft Hood Texas and Germany. Other assignments included Middle East Area Specialist in Beirut Lebanon, Military Attache in Jordan, Office of military Cooperation in Egypt, and the Middle East desk officer in the Office of Assistant Chief of Staff of Intelligence. After serving as the Deputy Commander III Corps artillery, he retired as Inspector General of Ft Sill Oklahoma.

After retirement he worked as a contractor for the Central Intelligence Agency, taught JROTC at Wadesboro NC. He has taught as an adjunct professor in terrorism studies at the Methodist University in Fayetteville NC and for 18 years, as the seminar director of Middle East studies at the US Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School. As a graduate of the U.S. Army Foreign Area Middle East Specialist program, he has served about eight years in various capacities in a number of Arab countries. As the US military attaché to Jordan, he reported on the Jordanian –Palestinian civil war in 1970, and as chief of the US Army security assistance program to Egypt 1981, he observed the Islamic insurgency following the assassination of president Anwar Sadat in Egypt. He and his wife were on the viewing stand, when President Sadat was assassinated. These assignments combined with two short deployments to Iraq in 2003-2004 with psychological warfare units enabled Colonel DeAtkine to acquire an on -the -ground experience of Low intensity conflict and terrorism.

]With the exception of Libya, , Colonel. DeAtkine has served in or visited every Middle East country, many, during his assignment as a student at the American University of Beirut, and others during his service at the John F Kennedy Special Warfare School, in which he taught special operations officers Middle Eastern history, culture, and the intricacies of Islam. During the 18 years he taught at the Special Warfare School he taught for a short time with the infamous Sergeant Ali Mohamed, the so-called “Green Beret” terrorist. Colonel DeAtkine was later subpoenaed as a witness at the World Trade Center Bombing Conspiracy Trial in 1993 at which several defendants were given a life sentence. From this trial Col. DeAtkine formed a long association with Roger Stavis, the lawyer for El Sayid Nosair, one of the defendants, acquiring an understanding of the difficulties in proceeding judicially against terrorists.

Following his retirement from the John F Kennedy Special Warfare School, he was employed as a contractor senior analyst by the Defense Intelligence Agency, in the Iraqi Intelligence Cell, and later as Middle East Desk Officer at the U.S. Marine Corps Center for Language and Culture at Quantico Virginia. He was also employed by the

State Department, instructing American law enforcement officers deploying to Jordan to monitor training of the Palestinian Security Forces.

He has written extensively on the region, with articles in a number of periodicals, including chapters in two books: *Armed Forces in the Middle East* and *Conflict and Insurgency in the Contemporary Middle East*. "Why Arabs Lose Wars," written in 1999 for the *Middle East Quarterly* is still the most read article in line periodical the *Middle East Forum*. He also writes a blog on political-military affairs in the Middle East, *memoriesandreflections.blog*

Colonel DeAtkine received his BS from the U. S. Military Academy in 1959, and an MA from the American University of Beirut in Middle East Studies. He also graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U. S. Army War College. He is married and has three daughters, four grand daughters and one grandson.