



Upon graduating at the head of his high school class, he studied chemical engineering at Iowa State University from 1936 to 1941. However, before he could finish his course of study, he was called to active duty in the U.S. Army.

Wallace served as a paratrooper during WWII. He parachuted into Southern France, and later fought in the Battle of the Bulge.

The **Battle of the Bulge** (16 December 1944 – 25 January 1945) was a major German offensive campaign launched through the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in Belgium, France and Luxembourg on the Western Front toward the end of World War II in Europe. The surprise attack caught the Allied forces completely off guard and became the costliest battle in terms of casualties for the United States, whose forces bore the brunt of the attack. It also severely depleted Germany's war-making resources. The battle involved about 610,000 American men, of whom some 89,000 were casualties, including 19,000 killed. It was the largest and bloodiest battle fought by the United States in World War II.

He served three years with the "army of occupation" in Germany. Long before the dust settled on European battlefields in World War II, the US Army had to face the difficult tasks of occupying and governing war-torn Germany. Its leaders and troops were called upon to deal with a series of complex challenges in political, economic, financial, social, and cultural affairs, tasks beyond the traditional combat roles of soldiers.

Upon returning to the United States he was assigned to Fairbanks, Alaska and spent the winter testing parachute equipment in the extreme cold.



Then after attending the Command and General Staff College, he was assigned to The Pentagon as Chief of Army Scientific Intelligence. The Pentagon has served as the focal point of American military planning and operations. Vital decisions regarding the D-Day invasion of Europe and the development of the atomic bomb were made at the Pentagon during World War II. In subsequent years the Pentagon has been the setting for many more critical decisions, from the Cold War and the Vietnam War (1961–1975) to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Upon leaving The Pentagon, he served as a logistics officer in Korea and commanded a field artillery battalion at Fort Carson, CO. A Logistics Officer keeps a unit moving. They are responsible for planning, developing, and directing the logistical operations of a unit. This position also requires the officer to have experience in integrating the functions of supply, transportation, maintenance, aviation logistics, and medical service into a cohesive unit.

He attended the Army War College and simultaneously attended The George Washington University where he earned a Masters degree in International Affairs.

Continuing his education he attended the Army Aviation School and was assigned to Fort Rucker, AL for three years, where he gained aviation experience and, then was assigned to Vietnam, where he was Deputy Army Aviation Officer. An Officer within the Aviation Branch is first an expert aviator, but is also responsible for the coordination of Aviation operations from maintenance to control tower operations to tactical field missions.

His last assignment was as Chief of Staff of the Army Aviation Systems Command in St. Louis.

Among his awards are the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Air Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.



Colonel Wallace R. Buelow being congratulated on Receipt of the Legion of Merit. The Legion of Merit award was presented by MG John L. Klingenhagen, CO, Avscom St. Louis. Shown from left to right: MG John L. Klingenhagen, Col. Wallace R. Buelow and CPT Harry Engberg. 3 Sept 1970.



The **Legion of Merit (LOM)** is a military award of the United States Armed Forces that is given for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements.



The **Bronze Star Medal** is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the US Military. It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone.

in aerial flight.



The **Air Medal** is a [military decoration](#) of the [United States Military](#). The medal was created in 1942 and is awarded for meritorious achievement while participating



The **Army Commendation Medal** is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States other than General Officers who, while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Army after 6 December 1941, distinguished themselves by heroism, meritorious achievement or meritorious service.

Col. Buelow retired after 31 years of active duty from the U.S. Army in 1972.



BG Samuel G. Cockerham, Acting Commander, AVSCOM (left) presents a Retirement Certificate to Col. Wallace R. Buelow, while Mrs. Betty Buelow looks on. 29 Sept 1972