



JOHN MALCHASE DAVID SHALIKASHVILI

25 October 1993 — 30 September 1997

John Shalikashvili was born 27 June 1936 in Warsaw, Poland. During World War II he lived through the German occupation of Poland, the 1944 Warsaw uprising, and flight to Germany. In 1952 he emigrated with his family to the United States, settling in Peoria, Illinois.

Shalikashvili entered Peoria Central High School, graduating in 1954. He received a scholarship to Bradley University. There he enrolled in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), but his eyesight was not good enough for him to become a pilot. Shalikashvili became a US citizen in May 1958, received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Bradley that June, and was drafted into the Army in July. Six months later, Private Shalikashvili was selected for Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Upon graduation in July 1959, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the field artillery.

His first leadership assignment—in charge of a mortar platoon in Alaska—proved so challenging and enjoyable that he decided to make the Army his career. After promotion to first lieutenant in January 1961, Shalikashvili left Alaska for the Army Air Defense School at Fort Bliss, Texas, where he was an instructor in several courses and later a student in the advanced course. Promoted to captain in July 1963, he remained at Fort Bliss as a staff officer at the Army Air Defense Center. From February 1965 to January 1968 he served in information, operations, and command positions with US Army Europe in Germany not far from where he had spent much of his childhood. He was promoted to major in August 1967.

General John M. Shalikashvili
United States Army



Lieutenant Shalikashvili in Alaska.

As a senior district adviser in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969, Major Shalikashvili served in the I Corps Tactical Zone near the North Vietnamese border in an area heavily infiltrated by the Viet Cong. He received a Bronze Star with "V" Device for valor for directing successful resistance to an attack from two enemy positions while accompanying a small patrol on a

search operation. While a student in the staff course at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, he received a master's degree in international relations from George Washington University in 1970. Then followed the first of several tours at Fort Lewis, Washington: a year as Executive Officer, 2d Battalion, 18th Field Artillery, 212th Field Artillery Group.



Colonel Shalikashvili as Division Artillery Commander with the 1st Armored Division.

In June 1971 Major Shalikashvili was sent to Korea as an operations officer with the United Nations Command and US Forces, Korea. When he returned to the United States, he was assigned to the Army Military Personnel Center in Alexandria, Virginia. Promoted to lieutenant colonel in May 1974, he returned to Fort Lewis in July 1975 as Assistant Fire Support Coordinator, Division Artillery, 9th Infantry Division. In December he took command of the 1st Battalion, 84th Field Artillery. Following successful command, Shalikashvili was selected to attend the Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

After graduating from the War College, Lieutenant Colonel Shalikashvili returned to Europe, where from June 1978 to June 1979 he was Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 (Operations), US Army Southern European Task Force. Promoted to colonel in December 1978, he commanded the Division Artillery of the 1st Armored Division, US Army Europe, from June 1979 to August 1981. Next assigned stateside, Colonel Shalikashvili served his first tour in the Pentagon. From September 1981 to August 1984 he was assigned to the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, where he dealt with



Lieutenant General Shalikashvili meets with Kurdish refugees during Operation PROVIDE COMFORT, 1991.

the politico-military aspects of military operations, first as Chief of the Politico-Military Division and then as Deputy Director of the Strategy, Plans, and Policy Directorate.

Over the next five years he held significant command and staff positions and rose to the rank of lieutenant general. In August 1984 Brigadier General Shalikashvili returned to the 1st Armored Division in Germany as an Assistant Division Commander. He came back to the Army Staff in July 1986 as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (Joint Affairs) and Director of Strategy, Plans, and Policy. In this capacity he helped develop the Army's position on the reduction of theater nuclear missiles in Europe in preparation for US negotiations with the Soviet

Union. In June 1987 Major General Shalishashvili assumed command of the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, where he impressed General Colin L. Powell, then Commander in Chief of Forces Command, with his ability to "get things done." Shalishashvili restored stability and direction to a division that had experienced considerable disruption as a result of years of experimentation with organization and equipment.

He became Deputy Commander-in-Chief of US Army Europe and the Seventh Army in September 1989 and was promoted to lieutenant general the next month. Shalishashvili directed the evacuation of all US chemical munitions from Germany and assisted with the movement of VII Corps to Saudi Arabia for



General Shalikashvili and Secretary of Defense William J. Perry meet with reporters upon arrival in Haiti to visit with Haitian leaders and US troops deployed there, October 1994.

participation in the Persian Gulf War. Selected in April 1991 to command Operation PROVIDE COMFORT, a US-led multinational relief operation of unprecedented scale, Shalikashvili demonstrated exceptional organizational and diplomatic skill. Charged with saving half a million Iraqi Kurds who had fled into the mountains of northern Iraq and eastern Turkey at the end of the Persian Gulf War and were dying at the rate of one thousand a day, he directed the relief effort, negotiated with the Turkish government, and dealt with the Iraqi military. By July most of the refugees had been resettled in Iraq. The success of this humanitarian operation convinced him that, used judiciously, the military had a role beyond its "primary mission" of "going to war," that it could bring to such crises an organization and structure unmatched by any civilian institution: "I saw firsthand what an enormous capacity the armed forces have for doing good."

In August 1991 Shalikashvili returned to the Pentagon to serve General Powell as Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In that position he traveled extensively with Secretary of State James A. Baker III as the Chairman's representative, dealing primarily with the consequences of the collapse of the Soviet Union. He received his fourth star in June 1992, when he became Commander in Chief of the US European Command (USCINCEUR) and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR). As SACEUR, he helped lay the groundwork for recasting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to deal with the new Europe that had resulted from the demise of the Warsaw Pact.

Selected by President William J. Clinton, General Shalikashvili became the thirteenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 25 October 1993. He was the first foreign-born Chairman, the first draftee to rise to the

position, and the first OCS graduate to be appointed. As Chairman, he continued to prefer to be known, as he had for most of his career, as "Shali."

Shalikashvili's tenure saw a dramatic increase in the number of overseas deployments of US forces, particularly in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, including those in Bosnia, Haiti, and Rwanda. While he supported the military's participation in these types of operations, he maintained that the United States needed to be "very selective" in deploying its forces and should become engaged only when important national interests were involved, all other options had been exhausted, and the intervention of its military could be decisive. In the debate over the appropriate US response to the conflict that had raged in Bosnia since 1992, he opposed commitment of US ground forces as combatants but advocated US participation in a NATO peace implementation force once all warring factions had agreed to a peace framework.

The increased frequency of operations during his chairmanship strained troop morale and readiness. As a former enlisted soldier, Shalikashvili felt a special bond with enlisted personnel and took particular satisfaction from his success in winning support for increasing the defense budget's provisions for pay, housing, and benefits to improve the quality of life for enlistees and their families. While he believed that the nation's armed forces were prepared to meet any near-term contingency, he was concerned about future readiness if the accelerated pace of operations continued. Accordingly, he recommended closing bases to provide funding to maintain readiness.

To deal with the shifting geostrategic situation, Shalikashvili directed the development of an overarching strategic vision to take the US military into the twenty-first century as a force that could shape the international

environment in which it would have to operate instead of continually responding to crises ad hoc. Published in 1996, "Joint Vision 2010" provided a doctrinal framework for the development of service strategies that would employ advanced technology to dominate any battlefield.

The central strategic issue during his tenure was the question of the future of NATO, the linchpin of the US relationship with Europe. Shalikashvili was, in the apt description of the *New York Times*, the "intellectual godfather" of the Partnership for Peace, NATO's military cooperation program with the former members of the Warsaw Pact. This initiative became the foundation for the Clinton administration's support for the incremental enlargement of the alliance. Believing that a viable NATO was essential to US interests, Shalikashvili thought that its gradual expansion was a "cost-effective insurance policy" for maintaining European stability. In July 1997, two months before the end of his second term as Chairman, the alliance voted to extend membership to Hungary; the Czech Republic; and his birthplace, Poland.

At his retirement as Chairman on 30 September 1997 General Shalikashvili received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In retirement, he was a visiting professor at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University and worked as a consultant in the high-technology industry. He devoted considerable energy to promoting military-to-military relations between the United States and Russia and China. In early 2000 President Clinton appointed him to head an effort to win Senate support for ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Shalikashvili also served on the boards of a number of corporations and nonprofit organizations as well as his alma mater, Bradley University.

John Malchase David Shalikashvili

General, USA

Promotions	Dates	
	Temporary	Permanent
2LT		07 Jul 59
1LT	07 Jul 61	07 Jul 62
CPT.	08 Jul 63	07 Jul 66
MAJ	23 Aug 67.	07 Jul 73
LTC.	12 May 74	07 Jul 80
COL	06 Dec 78	
BG		01 Aug 83
MG		01 Sep 86
LTG.	01 Oct 89	
GEN	24 Jun 92	

Assignments	Dates	
	From	To
Enlisted Service.	1958	1959
Forward Observer, later Platoon Commander, Mortar Battery (106 mm), 1st Battle Group, 9th Infantry, US Army, AK	1959	1960
Forward Observer, Headquarters Battery, later Assistant Executive Officer, Battery B, 2d Howitzer Battalion, 15th Artillery, US Army, AK	1960	1961
Instructor, Air Defense Artillery, later Guided Missile, and later Senior Instructor, Administration and Operations Branch, High Altitude Missile Department, Academic Organization, US Army Air Defense School, Fort Bliss, TX	1961	1963
Student, Artillery Officer Advanced Course, US Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, OK, and US Army Air Defense School, Fort Bliss, TX	1963	1963
Staff Officer, Plans and Operations Division, G-3 (Operations), US Army Air Defense Center, Fort Bliss, TX	1963	1964

Assignments

	Dates	
	From	To
Assistant Information Officer, 32d Artillery Brigade, US Army Europe, Germany	1965	1965
Assistant Operations Officer, 32d Army Air Defense Command, US Army Europe, Germany	1965	1966
Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 32d Army Air Defense Command, US Army Europe, Germany	1966	1967
Operations Officer, 32d Army Air Defense Command, US Army Europe, Germany	1967	1968
Senior District Adviser, Advisory Team 19, US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam	1968	1969
Student, Naval War College, Newport, RI	1969	1970
Executive Officer, 2d Battalion, 18th Field Artillery, 212th Field Artillery Group, Fort Lewis, WA	1970	1971
Operations Officer, Current Operations, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, J-3, United Nations Command/US Forces Korea	1971	1972
Assignment Officer, later Personnel Management Officer, Field Artillery Branch, and later Chief, Assignment Branch, Lieutenant Colonels Division, Officer Personnel Management Directorate, US Army Military Personnel Center, Alexandria, VA	1972	1975
Assistant Fire Support Coordinator, Division Artillery, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA	1975	1975
Commander, 1st Battalion, 84th Field Artillery, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA	1975	1977
Student, US Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA	1977	1978
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 (Operations), US Army Southern European Task Force	1978	1979
Commander, Division Artillery, 1st Armored Division, US Army Europe, Germany	1979	1981
Chief, Politico-Military Division, later Deputy Director, Strategy, Plans, and Policy Directorate, Office, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, US Army, Washington, DC	1981	1984
Assistant Division Commander, 1st Armored Division, US Army Europe, Germany	1984	1986

Assignments	Dates	
	From	To
Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, (Joint Affairs)/Director of Strategy, Plans and Policy, Office, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, US Army, Washington, DC	1986	1987
Commanding General, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA	1987	1989
Deputy Commander in Chief, US Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany	1989	1991
Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, DC	1991	1992
Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe/Commander in Chief, US European Command, Belgium	1992	1993
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, DC.	1993	1997

Principal US Military Decorations and Qualifications

- Defense Distinguished Service Medal (with 3 oak leaf clusters)
- Army Distinguished Service Medal (with oak leaf cluster)
- Navy Distinguished Service Medal
- Air Force Distinguished Service Medal
- Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal
- Legion of Merit (with 2 oak leaf clusters)
- Bronze Star (with "V" device)
- Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 oak leaf clusters)
- Air Medal
- Joint Service Commendation Medal
- Army Commendation Medal

- Parachutist
- Combat Infantryman