

LARRY L. BENSON



Larry L. Benson, a native of Kannapolis, North Carolina, received a BS degree in biology from Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia in 1961 and a Master of Public Administration degree from Auburn University in 1974. In addition, he is a graduate of several Air Force and DOD professional military education and development schools.

Mr. Benson was commissioned in the U.S. Air Force at Lackland AFB, Texas in August 1962. Following completion of the 31-week photo intelligence course at Sheppard AFB, Texas, in April 1963, he was assigned to the AF Systems Command Foreign Technology Division (FTD) at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Following completion of this tour of duty, he was assigned to the 432nd Reconnaissance Technical Squadron at Udorn Royal Thai AFB, Thailand in support of RF-101 and RF-4C operations over Laos and North Vietnam.

Upon completion of duty in Southeast Asia in late 1967, Mr. Benson returned to FTD as deputy chief and chief of imagery analysis. In July 1969, he was assigned to Headquarters Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), Hickam AFB in operations analysis and authored the tactical reconnaissance portion of the Project CORONA HARVEST evaluation of Southeast Asian air operations. Following

completion of this project, he served as reconnaissance staff officer at the 548th Reconnaissance Technical Group and as executive officer to the PACAF Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence.

Mr. Benson was assigned to Headquarters U.S. Air force in August 1974 and served in the Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence Director of Estimates specializing in command, control and communications. Subsequently, he moved to the Directorate of Plans and Systems as chief of the Scientific and Technical Intelligence (S&TI) Office and program manager for the AF S&TI Program which covered FTD and related worldwide activities.

Returning to FTD in 1980, Mr. Benson served as executive officer to the commander, Director of Plans and Programs and Vice Commander. He returned to Hickam AFB in 1985 and served as Commander of the 548th Reconnaissance Group until July 1988. His last assignment leading to retirement from active duty in the grade of Colonel on 1 September 1992 was Senior Intelligence Officer and Vice Commander, Foreign Aerospace Science and Technology Center, predecessor of NASIC.

Following AF retirement, Mr. Benson served as Defense Intelligence Agency Production Representative to the Air Force and the National Air Intelligence Center. In October 1998, he was chosen to establish the Processing and Exploitation Coordination Office under the newly reorganized Central MASINT Organization. He moved to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) in late 2003 and as Chief of the NGA Support Team at Wright-Patterson AFB supported and coordinated the transfer of NASIC imagery intelligence support to NGA and the transition of the majority of the existent MASINT program to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Program.

Mr. Benson last served as the Senior Geospatial-Intelligence (GEOINT) and Measurement and Signatures Intelligence (MASINT) Advisor in the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) Geospatial and Signatures Intelligence Group located at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. This position is responsible for leading the development of a comprehensive, integrated roadmap for the advocacy and implementation of emerging advanced technical intelligence capabilities responding to the requirements of key operational, policy and acquisition customers at the Service, Department of Defense and National levels.