

Major General (Ret.) John R. Phipps

Year of Commission: 1941

BS in Economics



MG Phipps served as a battery commander in the 148th Field Artillery in the Pacific during World War II. After the war, he went into the National Guard and commanded E Company, 130th Infantry 44th Division in Mattoon, IL. In 1952, as a Lieutenant Colonel, he was ordered to active duty in Korea. In Korea, he worked as an advisor to Republic of Korea Army units. In 1967, he was given command of the 33rd Infantry Brigade. During the spring of 1968, Phipps was responsible for successfully quelling the Chicago riots. He was promoted to MG and accepted the position of Adjutant General of the State of Illinois in 1977. His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, and the Bronze Star. In his civilian life, he was a successful small business owner in Mattoon, IL until his retirement in 1990.

Year Inducted: 2013