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Lieutenant General Lincoln D. Faurer, USAF

1981 - 1985

Lieutenant General Lincoln D. Faurer was born 7 February 1928 in Medford, Massachusetts. He attended Cornell University before graduating from the U.S. Military Academy in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science degree and a commission as a second lieutenant. He received a master's degree in engineering management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York, in 1964. He completed studies at the National War College at Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C., in 1968 and concurrently earned a master's degree in international affairs from George Washington University, also in Washington, D.C.

After graduation from West Point, Lieutenant General Faurer attended flying schools at Goodfellow Air Force Base (AFB), Texas, and Vance AFB, Oklahoma, and received his pilot's wings in August 1951. He completed B-29 pilot training at Randolph AFB, Texas, in January 1952 and was then assigned to the 308th Bombardment Wing at Forbes AFB, Kansas. In May 1952 he moved with the wing to Hunter AFB, Georgia.

From April 1953 to September 1955, he flew weather reconnaissance flights with the 56th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at Yokota AFB, Japan.

After aerial observer training at James Connally AFB, Texas, he returned to Forbes AFB in May 1956 as an RB-47 aircraft commander with the 320th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron. In May 1958 he transferred to Headquarters 90th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, also at Forbes, as chief of the Training Procedures Section.

Lieutenant General Faurer began his career in the missile and space fields in August 1959 when he was assigned to Headquarters, 2nd Air Force, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, serving successively as an operations officer in the Missile Section; guided missiles operations officer; and chief, Missile Branch in the Training Division, Directorate of Operations. While at Barksdale he was associated with the 2nd Air Force's growing inventory of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

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He attended the graduate engineer management program at Rensselaer Polytechnic from June 1963 to July 1964. After graduation he was assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., in the Directorate of Scientific and Technical Intelligence, and served as a technical intelligence officer; development engineer; and later as chief, Space Systems Division, in the Missiles and Space Office until July 1967.

Upon graduation from the National War College in July 1968, he was named director of Current Operations, 14th Aerospace Force, at Ent AFB, Colorado. He then served as commander, 16th Surveillance Squadron, at Shemya AFB, Alaska, from August 1969 to September 1970, when he was appointed commander of the 71st Missile Warning Wing at McGuire AFB, New Jersey.

He was assigned as director, Intelligence, U.S. Southern Command, Canal Zone, in July 1971 and in June 1973 transferred to Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., for duty as deputy assistant chief of staff for intelligence. In May 1974 Lieutenant General Faurer returned to the DIA as deputy director for intelligence, and in July 1976 he became vice director for Production. In August 1977 he became director, Intelligence, U.S. European Command in Vaihingen, Germany. Immediately before joining NSA, he was the deputy chairman of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Military Committee in Brussels, Belgium.

Lieutenant General Faurer became Director, NSA, in 1981. As Director, he combined sound planning, innovative management, and leadership ability to accomplish the Agency's mission during a time of revolutionary technological changes. He encouraged innovations in communications and computer security, and actively promoted the mission of the National Computer Security Center. He encouraged participative management at all levels, and was a leader in applying innovative management techniques within the federal government. He championed the Campaign for Excellence, underscoring his belief in and encouragement of the unlimited potential of the individual Agency employee. To deal with an expanding workforce, he broke ground for the Ops 2A and Ops 2B buildings, and oversaw the leasing of several buildings at Airport Square near the FANX complex.

Following his retirement in 1985, Lieutenant General Faurer maintained an interest in command, control, communications, computing, and intelligence issues.