

# COL. FITZROY "BUCK" NEWSUM, USAF RETIRED

*New York City, New York*

Was taken to Barbados, British West Indies at the age of one and later to Trinidad, British West Indies  
Returned to Brooklyn, New York, at age 12. Graduated from the Boys High School, participating in track and football  
Pursued degree in education at Brooklyn College

## 1941

- Commissioned as 2nd Lt. in Coast Artillery Corps (Anti Aircraft) following two years as a member of the New York National Guard's 369th Infantry Regiment, January
- Served as 75MM Gun Battery Combat Commander, Hawaii 1942-1943

## 1943-1947

- Attended flight school, Tuskegee, Alabama, March, 1943-December, 1943
- Graduated as multi-engine pilot, December 3, 1943
- Served in initial cadre from the 477th Bombardment Group—Army Air Corps' first all-Black multi-engine group
- Served as flight leader and squadron Operations Officer of the Tuskegee Airmen until 1947
- Attended Communications School and became squadron and group Communications Officer
- Pres. Harry S. Truman issued his desegregation order, 1946

## 1949

- The 332nd Fighter Group was disbanded
- Served in the 374th Troop Carrier Wing, Japan, and the Korean conflict
- Served as Operations Officer and Operations Wing Director, Japan and Mitchell AFB, New York respectively
- Transferred to Toul-Rosières Air Base, France. Served as Wing Inspector and Information Services for 3½ years
- The most dynamic part of military career having greatest impact on personal life was exposure to information services, community relations and historical programs

## 1957

- Returned to United States to finish Bachelor's Degree in Military Science, University of Maryland under Operation Bootstrap—a military educational assistance program

## 1958

- Received degree and returned to Mitchell AFB, New York, January
- Applied for missile training following deactivation of the Reserve Flying Center
- Reassigned to 451st Strategic Missile Wing, Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado



- Served as Quality Control and Evaluation Officer, Lowry

## 1965-1970

- Assigned to McConnell AFB
- Served as Commander of the 381st Missile Maintenance Squadron
- Promoted to Wing Deputy Commander
- Promoted to Vice Commander, October 31, 1968-1970
- Military education
- Industrial College of the Armed Forces
- Command and Staff School
- Air War College

## 1969

- Received Master's Degree in Public Administration, University of Oklahoma, August

## 1970

- Retired from military service
- Joined Martin Marietta Corporation, directing the Denver Division's community relations program

## Awards

- Division and Corporate Special Recognition for outstanding contributions to civic and community relations, '73 and '80
- Denver Urban League Leadership Award, May 1980
- Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Brigadier General Noel F. Parrish Award, 1989 Inducted into Colorado Aviation Historical Society Hall of Fame, 1990

Resides in Denver with wife Joan

*Fitzroy "Buck" Newsom, Colonel  
USAF (Ret) 11 Dec 2009*