

Franklin L. Hagenbeck, Army

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Jacksonville, Fla

Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Franklin L. “Buster” Hagenbeck is president of a consulting firm based in Jacksonville, Fla. He serves as an expert on leadership and national security issues for the firm.

Hagenbeck graduated and was commissioned as a second lieutenant from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He holds a Master of Science from Florida State University and an MBA from Long Island University. He also attended the Maxwell School National Security Program at Syracuse University. His military education includes the Army War College, Army Command and General Staff College and the Infantry Officer Advanced Course.



Hagenbeck served in the U.S. Army for more than 39 years, culminating his career as the 57th superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy. He commanded at every level, from company through division, including a stint as commanding general of the 10th Mountain Division. He also served in the 25th Infantry Division, the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division and the Training and Doctrine Command.

Hagenbeck served as the Army’s deputy chief of staff for Personnel and held numerous other staff positions. He also served in several joint assignments, including service as exchange officer to the Royal Australian Infantry Center, and as strategic plans and policy directorate and deputy director for Current Operations, Joint Staff.

Hagenbeck led the first conventional forces into Afghanistan in fall 2001 as the commander of Coalition Joint Task Force Mountain. He was senior commander in Afghanistan, and in March 2002, he commanded Operation Anaconda, the largest conventional battle since the end of the Vietnam War. He received numerous awards and decorations, including two Distinguished Service Medals.

Hagenbeck is a board member for both Bite Technology and the nonprofit National Organization on Disability. In addition to his service on the FSU Foundation Board of Trustees, he is the director of the Engineering Leadership Institute at the University of Florida College of Engineering. He also advises several multi-national corporations and is a member of the Elbe Group, which is sponsored by the Belfer Center at Harvard’s Kennedy Center and focuses on nuclear counter-terrorism. Hagenbeck was recently selected as a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He is one of 12 leaders featured in Gary Burnison’s “No Fear of Failure—Real Stories of How Leaders Deal with Risk and Change” and is profiled in the book “West Point Leadership: Profiles of Courage.