



4th Infantry



24th Infantry



**Harold Jeremiah Bieber**  
**Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Army**  
**4 August 1940 – 1 April 1965**

Harold was born on 3 June 1919 in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. The family moved to Alburts, Pennsylvania, and later to a farm in Grimsville, Pennsylvania, for two years during Harold's early childhood, until moving to Wescosville, Pennsylvania, in 1928. Harold attended 1st grade in Alburts, 2nd and 3rd grades in Grimsville, 4th–8th grades in Wescosville, and 9th grade at Raub Jr. High School in Allentown, Pennsylvania. In 1938, during the Depression, his father asked him to quit school and find employment to assist in the support of his four brothers and three sisters. He found employment at the Allentown Bobbin Works, running machinery manufacturing bobbins. He enlisted in the Army in Allentown, and traveled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was sworn in as a Private on 4 August 1940. From there he went to Camp Jackson, South Carolina, for basic training, and then to Fort Benning, Georgia, for advanced training, where he was assigned to the Field Artillery Company, 4th Infantry Division. After the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 and activation of the draft, the Division moved to Camp Gordon, Augusta, Georgia, as a Training Division. Harold advanced to Staff Sergeant, Chief of Detail, there, heading the Survey Section. Because of his performance and potential, he was selected to attend Battalion Officer Staff Training, followed by assignment to the Candidate Officers Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. While there, he answered the call for volunteers to attend Piper Cub flight training for the "Grasshopper Pilots" as a result of a shortage of Sergeants with flight experience. After passing a stringent flight physical, Harold was sent on temporary duty to Denton, Texas, Flight School as a Second Lieutenant for 10 weeks of basic flight training. He then returned to Fort Sill Aviation Department for Tactical training in preparation for overseas duty. On 6 February 1943, he was transferred to the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill for training as an Air Observation Pilot, graduating on 8 May 1943, and receiving orders to Hawaii. He arrived on Oahu Island on 3 June 1943, and was assigned to the 29th Field Artillery Battalion, 24th Infantry Division, which was deployed in defensive positions on Oahu and undergoing training for deployment to the Asiatic-Pacific area. The 24th Division moved to Rockhampton, Australia, and then landed at Hollandia, New Guinea, before deploying to Good Enough Island on 25 May 1944 for training and preparation for invasion of the Philippine Islands. Harold's brother, **Russel Llewellyn Bieber**, who had participated in the New Guinea Campaign, was still stationed there and met him after he arrived. The 24th Division left New Guinea for the Philippines on 11 November 1944, and participated in clearing the Japanese from Mindanao Island. Harold was then transferred to the 11th Airborne Division for the landing on Luzon. After victory on Luzon, the 11th Airborne moved by air to Sendi, Japan, for occupation duty. Harold returned to the States in October 1945 to Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, for separation, and was released from active duty on 15 January 1946. He was then assigned to the Officer Reserve Corps, and promoted to Captain in the Reserves. In addition to his campaign medals, Harold was awarded the Bronze Star (w/Cluster) and Air Medal (w/2 Clusters) for his World War II service. Harold was recalled to active duty on 10 December 1950 for Korean War service, where he flew helicopters as a Captain with the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion, 24th Infantry Division. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal on 17 January 1952 and an Oak Cluster for the medal on 8 April 1965. After serving in Korea, Harold reverted to Warrant Officer and served in numerous schools and flight and staff positions in the U.S., Greenland, and Germany. He retired from the Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, on 1 April 1965 at his Officer Reserve Corps rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He then flew helicopters for Traffic Control in Washington D.C. until 1976. After that he flew helicopters for Stewart Petroleum Company, retiring in 1984. Harold married **Dolores Marie Henry** (12 August 1926 – 13 September 2004) on 26 October 1946. After Harold retired, they bought a house a short distance from Krocksville, Pennsylvania. From 1982 to 1985, they spent the winter months in Sun City, Arizona, renting their house to a daughter. In 1991, they sold their house near Krocksville and moved to Winter Haven, Florida, where they settled. They had three children: **Darlene**, **Dennis**, and **Donna**. Harold's parents were **Charles Joel Bieber** (6 January 1893 – 26 April 1968) and **Clara Mabel Meitzler** (26 October 1894 – 1 November 1959). Besides his brother Russel, Harold had three other brothers who served in the Army: **Herbert John** and **Leon Earl** during the Korean War, and **Forrest Charles** during World War II. Their brother-in-law **Edward Francis Henry**, husband of their sister **Naomi Clara Bieber**, served in the Navy during World War II.