

*African American Warrant Officers: Preserving Their Legacy highlights achievements and contributions that African American have made in service to our country. This book honors African American Warrant Officers and pays tribute and preserves their legacy in the United States Military.*

## **AFRICAN AMERICAN WARRANT OFFICERS: PRESERVING THEIR LEGACY**

by Farrell J. Chiles

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AFRICAN  
AMERICAN  
WARRANT  
OFFICERS

*Preserving Their Legacy*

THE BIOGRAPHIES, ACHIEVEMENTS,  
AND CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WARRANT OFFICERS

FARRELL J. CHILES

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# **African American Warrant Officers: Preserving Their Legacy**

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## Foreword

I want to first congratulate Mr. Farrell Chiles for his continued investigation into the accomplishments of African American Warrant Officers that have served in our military forces and within our communities honorably. CW4 (Ret) Farrell Chiles has walked in the shoes of the distinct people he has researched and continues to highlight. He himself is a well-known and respected retired African American Chief Warrant Officer Four, with numerous accolades and respected as a widely recognized author of several articles and books.

Myself, as a man of color from African American descent, it was truly an honor to serve our country in the U.S. Army for over 29 years with 20 of those years as a Missile Systems Warrant Officer. I was blessed enough during my career to be the first U.S. Army Warrant Officer of color in the history of the U.S. Army to obtain a Ph.D. and to receive an accelerated promotion/below the zone to CW5. After my retirement, I was also inducted in the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame. I was very humbled when Mr. Chiles asked me to write the “Foreward” to his third book in his series of books on “African American Warrant Officers serving in the U.S. Military”.

Farrell Chiles’ pursuit of investigating and recording the history of the African American Warrant Officers serving in our military forces began in 2015 with his first book in his series titled “African American Warrant Officers...In Service to Our Country”. He further expanded his investigation of African American Warrant Officers serving in our military services with his second book in the series titled “African American Warrant Officers – Their Remarkable History”. Now, the third book of his series, “African American Warrant Officers - Preserving Their Legacy”. With this third book of his series on African American Warrant Officers who have served in our U.S. Military Services, he puts the definitive finish on a study that he has thoroughly researched and chronicled in an effort to share this incredible military history with the world. As with all U.S. history over the years, there has seemed to be a shortage of noted African American history recorded, Mr. Chiles is filling that gap with pertinent and revelatory stories about the African American Warrant

Officer and how they have served our military forces to make our country the great country it is today and will continue to be tomorrow!

I want to also thank all the African American Warrant Officers who have shared their stories with Mr. Chiles. Without their willing support, there would be no history to share with the generations to come. Warrant Officers are a special breed of Military Officers (see a definition of a U.S. Army Warrant Officer below from DA Pamphlet 600-3) that have found a special niche in our military history. More specifically the African American Warrant Officers that have served our country in one of our U.S. military services need to be recognized and honored for helping to positively change the way our country views African Americans not only in the military but in American society as a whole. I salute all African American Warrant Officers for your service and dedication to keeping our country free and safe for the generations to follow.

The Army Warrant Officer (WO) is a self-aware and adaptive technical expert, combat leader, trainer, and advisor. Through progressive levels of expertise in assignments, training, and education, the WO administers, manages, maintains, operates, and integrates Army systems and equipment across the full spectrum of Army operations. Warrant Officers are innovative integrators of emerging technologies, dynamic teachers, confident warfighters, and developers of specialized teams of soldiers. They support a wide range of Army missions throughout their career. Warrant officers in the Army are accessed with specific levels of technical ability. They refine their technical expertise and develop their leadership and management skills through tiered progressive assignment and education. The following are specific characteristics and responsibilities of the separate, successive WO grades. (Department of the Army Pamphlet 600-3).

This book is not just to be read by the African American community. It is a book that should be read by all races/ethnicities to inspire people to respect our country and the service that Warrant Officers have dedicated to our country for over 100 years. If you are a military historian at heart, then this book is a must-have for your

library. No history can be complete without the full rich story of all the actors that played critical roles on the stage. African American Warrant Warrant Officers have played and will continue to play key roles in our military forces to allow our country to continue to be “The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave”.

**Harry Hobbs, DBA  
CW5 (Retired), USA  
Site Director and Assistant Professor of Business  
Florida Institute of Technology**



## Introduction

With the success of “African American Warrant Officers – Their Remarkable History”, it became “mandatory” to follow up with another volume.

Why? I missed too many Warrant Officers – past and present. I received comments, such as “I didn’t know about it? Can I be included in the next book? How do I get my bio to you? When is the next book coming out? My relative is not in the book.”

In addition, there were other concerns – not enough aviators, females, junior warrant officers, Army Reserve Warrant Officers, and National Guard Warrant Officers. The list goes on. What about the Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard Warrant Officers? They weren’t included in the book.

It’s okay. One more try. This book is more inclusive. Each Warrant Officer is listed under a specific category. There are more pictures to go along with the official military photos.

Again, each Warrant Officer tells his/her own story.

Doing historical research is both very rewarding and educational. Getting the “Quiet Professionals®” to tell their stories is very challenging. The end product is that African American Warrant Officers are preserving their legacy.

This book is third in a series of books highlighting the significant accomplishments of African American Warrant Officers. The book includes biographies and stories about African American Warrant Officers and their contributions to the military and beyond.

We must become our historians. We must tell our stories. If we don’t, then a significant part of history is lost. Future generations will be deprived of knowing the impact that African American Warrant Officers had on the military and the United States. We must tell who we are and what we accomplished.

We must continually record our history. We should never forget our past and the achievements of earlier African American Warrant Officers.

African American Warrant Officers served during World War II.

**Lest we forget:**

- **Samuel Smith** was drafted into the Army in 1942. During his four years on Active Duty, he attained the rank of Warrant Officer and served in the Philippines. After his military service, he was elected to five consecutive terms in the Washington State House of Representatives. He later served twenty-four years on the Seattle City Council and eight years as the Council President.
- **Richard Rutledge** enlisted in 1941 and was assigned to the Tuskegee Airfield with the 332nd Fighter Group. He was appointed a Warrant Officer in 1943. After his assignment with the Tuskegee Airman, he was part of the invasion of the Palau Islands located in the Western Pacific Ocean. After the war, Rutledge obtained a law degree from Brooklyn Law School and practiced law in the private sector for 34 years. Rutledge was later elected as a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York for a 14 year term.
- **Harry H. Hollowell** enlisted as a private in the 10th Calvary (Buffalo Soldiers) in 1936. In 1942, he had graduated from the Army Music School as a band leader and served as a bandmaster until his retirement in August 1964. He was the first African American promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Four. In 2009, “Hollowell Drive” was dedicated in his honor at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.
- **Harold Amos** was drafted into the Army in 1942 and entered France six days after the invasion of Normandy. During his four years in the military, he was appointed as a Warrant Officer. In 1946, Amos entered the Biological Science graduate program at the Harvard Medical School. He earned a MA in 1947 and Ph.D. in 1952, becoming the first African American to earn a doctoral degree from the division. Mr. Amos was a faculty member of the Harvard Medical School for nearly fifty years and was the first African American to head a department at the Harvard Medical School.

- **Leonard A. Dungey** was drafted into the Army in 1941. He was appointed a Warrant Officer in December 1942. During World War II, Mr. Dungey served in Italy and earned the European-Africa Middle East Campaign Medal and the WWII Victory Medal. He was one of 130 African American Warrant Officers retained on Active Duty after the war. Mr. Dungey's Army career spanned 20 years and 22 days. He retired as a Chief Warrant Officer Four. At the age of 95, Leonard Dungey published his autobiography, "The Best Man I Can Be".

**Lest we forget:**

A rich history. A proud legacy.

I am honored to present the history and legacy of African American Warrant Officers.

I hope you enjoy.

Regards,

Farrell J. Chiles  
CW4, USA, Retired

## **African American Warrant Officers in Army Leadership Positions**

During his/her military career, Warrant Officers attain significant levels of leadership. Some African American Warrant Officers and their positions:

- CW5 Deshawn L. Bell – Signal Regimental Chief Warrant Officer (RCWO)
- CW5 Jerome L. Bussey – U.S. Army Engineer School Regimental Chief Warrant Officer
- CW5 Terry D. Clark – Warrant Officer Division Chief for the Ordnance Electronic Maintenance Training Department, U.S. Army Ordnance School
- CW2 Amber L. Allsup – Warrant Officer Candidate Chief Instructor for the OCS, WOCS, and PWOC
- CW5 Artavia M. Edwards – Chief Legal Administrator, California National Guard
- CW5 Martha Ervin – 7th Mission Support Command (MSC) Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO)
- CW5 John D. Howze - Deputy Commandant, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College
- CW5 Billy Jackson – Senior Military Technical Evaluator, Army Test & Evaluation Command
- CW4 Adrian L. Levett – Branch Chief, Cyberspace Security Division, Alabama National Guard
- CW4 Keith Prather – Deputy Command Chief Warrant Officer, Army Reserve Legal Command
- CW5 Jermaine C. Williamson – Transportation Corps Regimental Warrant Officer

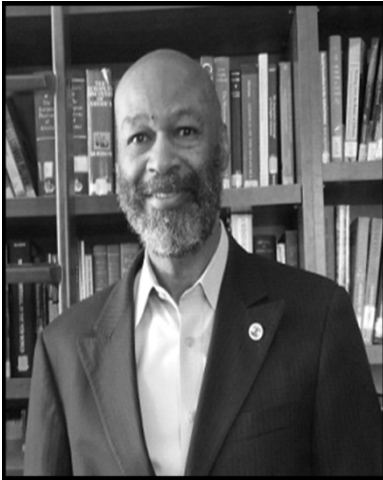
## **African American Warrant Officers Early Trailblazers**

Milestones reached by several African American Warrant Officers:

- CW3 Doris I. “Lucki” Allen – Inducted into the United States Military Intelligence Hall of Fame
- CW4 Carl Burhanan – First African American to become a Presidential Aircraft Commander
- CW4 Carl M. Burnett – Thus far, the only African American to serve as President of the United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA)
- CW5 Mary F. Carter – First woman to receive the USAWOA CW4 Albert M. Holcombe Warrant Officer of the Year Award
- CW5 Alston Cleary – Senior Ordnance Ground Maintenance Warrant Officer in the G4, U.S. Sustainment Command, Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois
- CW5 Lloyd S. Dillard – Assistant Commandant, Warrant Officer Career Center
- CW4 Leonard A. Dungey – WWII Pioneer; Author, “The Best Man I Can Be”
- CW4 Melissa Farmer – Selected as the Training and Doctrine Command’s Warrant Officer Instructor of the Year
- CW5 Janice L. Fontanez – Command Chief Warrant Officer, District of Columbia National Guard
- CW4 Harry H. Hollowell – First African American Warrant Officer promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Four
- CW5 Ida Tyree-Hyche – First woman Warrant Officer selected as the Reserve Officers Association’s Warrant Officer of the Year
- CW5 James A. Jackson – Became the longest serving 918E Communications and Electronics Maintenance Technician in the history of the Army
- CW5 Coral Jones – Chief Warrant Officer of the Adjutant General Corps

- CW5 Belynda A. Lindsey – Command Chief Warrant Officer, 63d Regional Support Command
- CW5 Eddie Mallard – First African American appoint Chief Command Warrant Officer, Military Intelligence (INSCOM)
- CW5 Rufus N. Montgomery, Sr. – First African American Warrant Officer inducted into the Order of the Eagle Rising Society
- CW5 Aurelia “Vicki” Murray – First African American woman promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Five
- CW5 J Louis Nance – First African American Master Aviator to attain the rank of Chief Warrant Officer Five
- CW5 Fred Norman – Inducted into the Army Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame
- CW2 Dylan E. Raymond – First African American Warrant Officer to receive the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award
- CW2 Pamela Rogers – Recipient of the Timothy J. Maude Medal for Distinguished Achievement
- CW5 James C. Tolbert – Regimental Chief Warrant Officer, United States Army Quartermaster School/Corps
- CW4 Cleveland Valrey – First African American inducted into the Army Aviation Hall of Fame
- CW5 David Williams – First Army Staff Senior Warrant Officer (SWO)
- CW5 Joe Williams – First African American Warrant Officer promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Five in the Army Reserve
- CW5 Robert “Bob” Wimberly – First African American appointed to the position of Command Chief Warrant Officer, New Jersey National Guard

## About the Author



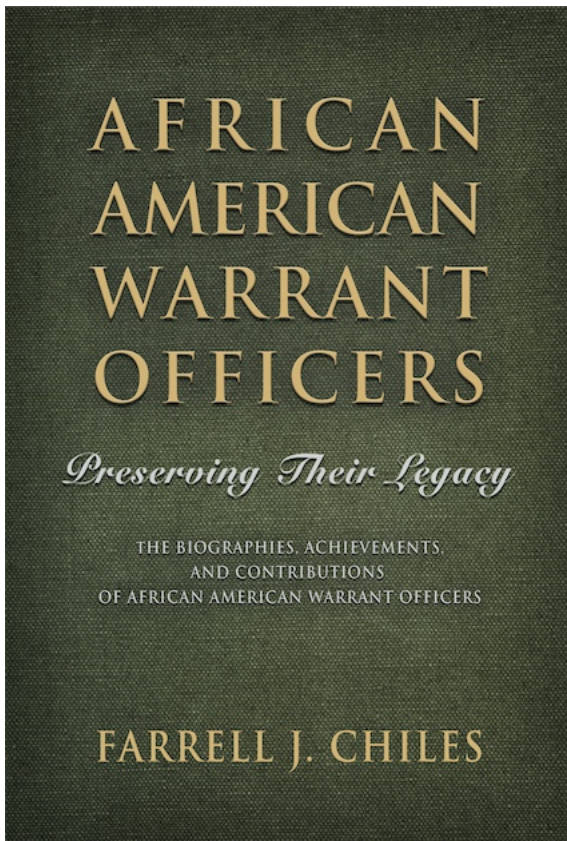
**Farrell J. Chiles** is a retired Chief Warrant Officer Four. He served on Active Duty and in the Army Reserve for 38 years. Chiles served two campaigns in Vietnam (1971-1972) and was mobilized for one year for Operation Enduring Freedom. Chiles was the Assistant Vice President for Reserve Affairs for three years for the United States Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA) and served on the National Board of Directors for two years. In 1998, he was honored as the

USAWOA Outstanding Warrant Officer of the Year. Chiles was the first recipient of the Reserve Officers Association's CW4 Michael J. Novasel Warrant Officer of the Year Award (1999), named after the Medal of Honor recipient. In 2016, he received the Don Hess Lifetime Achievement Award, named after the founder and president emeritus of the USAWOA.

Chiles is the author of "African American Warrant Officers...In Service to Our Country" (2014) and "African American Warrant Officers – Their Remarkable History" (2018). His first book, "As BIG As It Gets" (2010) chronicles his tenure as Chairman of the Board of the National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG) for five consecutive years.

Chiles is a former president of the Bay Area Urban Bankers Association; former board member and Vice President for Resource Development of the Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation; and former president of the Los Angeles/Long Beach Area Chapter of Blacks In Government (BIG). He is currently an appointed Commissioner on the County of Los Angeles Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission.

Farrell Chiles resides in Phillips Ranch, California.



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