

## COLONEL CHARLES J. BURNETT

Colonel Charles J. Burnett graduated in 1981 from the University of Florida as a distinguished military graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Computer and Information Science. He was commissioned in the Regular Army as a Signal Officer.

After a tour as platoon leader at Fort Bragg, in 1983 he went to Fort Rucker where he completed flight training. During his tour at the Army Aviation Center he served as operations officer, executive officer, night vision goggles instructor pilot and academic instructor. From 1988 to 1990 he served as maintenance officer, test pilot, medevac pilot-in-command and assault helicopter pilot-in-command in Panama. He earned the Air Medal for actions in combat during operation "Just Cause." In 1990 he was the aviation programs officer at the U.S. Military Group in Colombia supporting the Colombian Air Force and Colombian Police in counter narco-guerrilla operations. He returned to Fort Bragg in 1991 as company commander in the 229<sup>th</sup> Attack Helicopter Group. In 1992 he separated from the active Army and joined the Special Operations Command South in Panama as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee.

From 1992 to 1996 he was a civilian instructor pilot and maintenance test pilot in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. He flew as pilot-in-command in counter-narcotics operations, trained host country helicopter pilots and completed test flights on U.S. State Department aircraft. From 1996 to 1997, he returned to active duty as Traditional Commander-in-Chief Activities Coordinator for the Office of Defense Cooperation in Paraguay. Since 1998, he is a Department of the Army Civilian helicopter instructor at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

Colonel Burnett is currently Division Chief in the Concepts and Requirements Directorate at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Previous duties in the Army Reserve include assistant to the director, procurement management staff officer, government flight representative, battalion commander, National Guard advisor, distinguished visitor bureau director, counter-drug instructor pilot, chief of information systems, Traditional CINC Activities coordinator, assistant J-4, plans officer, air operations officer and aviation maintenance officer.

Colonel Burnett's military education includes the Signal Officer Basic Course, Aviation Officer Advanced Course, Basic Parachutist and Jumpmaster Courses, Military Freefall Course, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College and the Aviation Safety Officer Course. He is a certified Army Acquisition Professional in the Contracting, Program Management and Test and Evaluation career fields. Aviation highlights include being an instructor and maintenance test flight evaluator in the UH-60 and UH-1 helicopters. He holds a civilian Airline Transport Pilot license and is a civilian airplane and helicopter instructor. He has lived in eight Latin American countries and is qualified in Spanish, Portuguese and French.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device, Master Army Aviator Badge, Military Freefall Parachutist Badge and Parachutist Badge. His foreign decorations include the Pilot Wings of the Colombian Air Force and the parachute badges of the Greek Army, Peruvian National Police, Paraguayan Air Force, Paraguayan Army, Brazilian Army, Ecuadorian Army and Argentine Army.