



U.S. Army Combined Arms Center
and Fort Leavenworth

Colonel Michael J. Barbee

Director-
Combat Training Center Directorate

A native of Trion, Ga., Colonel Barbee was commissioned as a Lieutenant of Aviation in 1986 through the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY.

Following successful completion of the Army's Rotary Wing Aviator Course and the AH64 Qualification Course, Barbee served in Germany from 1988-1991 as an Attack Helicopter Platoon Leader, Support Platoon Leader and Brigade Assistant S4 in the 11th Aviation Brigade. During this time he served six months in Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia and Iraq.



Following the Aviation Captain's Career Course, Barbee served in the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky., from 1991-1994. Following his initial assignment as the 3-101st Attack Battalion S2, Barbee then commanded C Company, 3-101st. From 1994-1996, he was assigned to Fort McPherson, Ga., as Aide-de-Camp for the 3rd Army/ARCENT Deputy Commanding General, as well as a Deep Operations Coordination Cell planner.

Following attendance at Command and General Staff College, Barbee returned to the 101st Airborne Division from 1997-2000. During this time he served as an Attack Helicopter Battalion S3 and Executive Officer, followed by a year as the 101st Aviation Brigade S3. He then moved to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Ca., from 2000-2002 as the Aviation S3/Operations trainer.

In 2002, Colonel Barbee took command of the 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry, the Army's first Longbow squadron in Europe. During his time in command, Barbee deployed to Southwest Asia and led the squadron in Operation Iraqi Freedom combat operations for 12 months. Following command, Colonel served for a year as the Senior Aviation Trainer at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.

After attendance at the Air War College, Barbee was assigned to the Battle Command Training Program at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., as a Commander, Operations Groups (COG) from 2006-2009. He then deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan, for 12 months as the Senior Advisor to the Afghan Minister of Defense.

Barbee currently is Director of the Combat Training Center Directorate at Fort Leavenworth. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (with one Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters), Parachutist Badge and the Air Assault Badge.

Barbee has a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering from the United States Military Academy, a masters in Military Art and Science from the Command and General Staff College, and a masters in Strategic Studies from the Air War College.