

Colonel Tom Bolen

Combined Arms Center Chief of Staff

COL Tom Bolen graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1992 and commissioned as a Field Artillery officer. He first served with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina as a Rifle Company Fire Support Officer, Battery Fire Direction Officer and Executive Officer, and a Support Platoon Leader, all with the 1-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment.



COL Bolen next served with the 1st Cavalry Division Artillery (DIVARTY) at Fort Hood, Texas as the DIVARTY Fire Direction Officer and later as the Commander of C Battery, 2-82 FA. Following this assignment he joined the NTC Operations Group at Fort Irwin, California, serving as a Battalion Task Force Live Fire Observer / Controller, Firing Battery O/C, and Brigade FSO O/C.

After graduation from the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 2004, COL Bolen reported to Combat Support Coordination Team 3 in Yongin, Korea, serving as the Chief of Operations and Fire Support Officer at the 3rd ROK Army Headquarters.

COL Bolen next served with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky as the Brigade FSO. Following a deployment to Iraq for OIF 05-07, he transitioned to the 1-320th FA Battalion and served as the Battalion S-3 and later Executive Officer, deploying again as part of OIF 07-09.

COL Bolen returned to Fort Leavenworth for one year as a Tactics Instructor at CGSC before moving to Fort Bliss, Texas to assume command of 2-29th FA, part of the 4th BCT, 1st Armored Division. The Battalion deployed to Iraq for Operation New Dawn in 2011. He then returned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as the Division Chief of Fires and deployed to Afghanistan for OEF in 2013-2014.

Following graduation from the Naval War College, COL Bolen activated and assumed command of the 1st Infantry Division Artillery (DIVARTY) at Fort Riley, Kansas in October 2015. He deployed with the Division to Operation Inherent Resolve from 2016-2017, and relinquished command of DIVARTY in September 2017.

COL Bolen joined Army University at Fort Leavenworth in October 2017 as the Director of Strategic Policy and Plans, and transitioned to the Chief of Staff, Combined Arms Center in November 2018.

COL Bolen holds a BS in Geography from USMA, a MBA from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and a MA in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

COL Bolen is married with children.