

**Major General William J. Edwards**  
**National Guard Bureau**  
**The Pentagon, Washington D.C. 20301**

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Major General (MG) William J. Edwards is assigned as the Director for Strategy, Policy, Plans, & International Affairs National Guard Bureau (NGB), Joint Staff J-5.

Prior to joining the NGB J-5, he served as the Deputy Director for Strategic Initiatives, Joint Staff J-5. Additionally, he served as Commander of NATO Headquarters Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) where he advised the BiH authorities on military aspects of security sector reform, the implementation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Partnership for Peace Program and commanded all North Atlantic Treaty Organization Forces operating in BiH.

MG Edwards earned his Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 1990. He holds a Master of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering from Cornell University. He completed a Master of Strategic Studies in residence at the U.S. Army War College in 2011.

MG Edwards enlisted in 1985. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant, Infantry in May 1990. His service includes deployment to Baghdad, Iraq in 2004-2005 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a battalion S-3. In 2007, he assumed command of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 162 Infantry and led the battalion through a successful mobilization and deployment to Iraq. MG Edwards took command of the 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team in 2011 where he oversaw the preparation, mobilization, and deployment of over 800 Soldiers from the brigade to Afghanistan in 2014. Upon his promotion to Brigadier General, he was assigned as Land Component Commander, Oregon National Guard and had dual-hat responsibilities as Deputy Commanding General – Operations, First U.S. Army Training Support Division (West). From December 2018 to November 2019, he served as Deputy Director for Operations, Mobilization Assistant at U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. He has served in the Army National Guard in Pennsylvania, New York, and Oregon. A Citizen-Soldier for over 38 years, MG Edwards retired from his civilian employer in January, 2021 after 25 years as a Research and Development Engineer and Project Manager with HP Inc. in Corvallis, Oregon.

MG Edwards' awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, amongst other awards. He was also awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Army Basic Parachutist badge, and the Air Assault badge.