

Colonel Stephen L. A. Michael



Deputy Director, Pakistan Afghanistan and Transregional Threats Coordination Cell

COL Steve Michael was born in Guyana, South America in 1964, immigrated to the United States in 1979 and was commissioned into the Infantry in 1988. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced courses, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, and the US Army Command and General Staff College. He holds a Bachelors of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the United States Military Academy; completed the Operations Research Systems Analysis (ORSA) Military Applications Course at Fort Lee, VA; and was the Senior Service College Fellow to Columbia University for FY11. Prior to serving as the Columbia Fellow, COL Michael was the Regimental Tactical Officer for the 4th Regiment United States Corps of Cadets at West Point

COL Michael began his career at FT Drum as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Mortar Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and BN S4 in 2d Battalion 87th Infantry, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division. Immediately after the Career Course, he served as the BN S3 for the Columbus Recruiting Battalion in Columbus Ohio. Next he served as the Battalion S4 and Charlie Company Commander for 2d BN 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division. He then served as the S3 for 2d BN 503d IN (Airborne), 173rd Airborne BDE. Later he commanded 2nd Battalion 12th Infantry Regiment at FT Carson and 1st BCT 10th Mountain Division (Light) at FT Drum.

COL Michael has a diverse operational background; while at Fort Drum, he took part in Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, as the Battalion Logistics Officer for 2-87 Infantry. Next as the Commander for Charlie Company 2d BN 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division, he deployed as part of Operation Desert Focus to Dhahran Saudi Arabia to help secure American Citizens and forward deployed units in response to the Kobar Towers Bombing. As the Operations Officer for 2d BN 503d IN (Airborne), 173rd Airborne BDE in Vicenza, Italy, he deployed on two back-to-back operational missions; Operation Rapid Guardian in Kosovo and Operation Iraqi Freedom I, where the battalion conducted a night combat parachute assault onto Bashur Drop Zone, in Northern Iraq, and helped secure the city of Kirkuk. Next as a Ground Planner in the Southern European Task Force's Joint Planning Group with the responsibility for Sub-Saharan Africa, COL Michael deployed to Ghana and Nigeria as part of Joint Task Force Liberia, to help the Economic Community of West African States stabilize Liberia as President Charles Taylor was exiled to Nigeria. He then served as the Aide de Camp to Lieutenant General Kip Ward, then the Deputy Commander for United States Army Europe and 7th Army; with Lieutenant General Ward COL Michael deployed to Israel for ten months as part of the Israeli-Palestinian Security Coordinator Mission, to help prepare the Palestinian Authority to take control of Gaza. As the Commander of 2-12 IN, COL Michael deployed for 15 months to Al Doura, Baghdad as part of the historic surge. Recently, COL Michael deployed as the 1st Brigade Combat Team Commander to Regional Command - East on the Security Force Advise and Assist mission in order to enable the Afghan National Security Forces to stand up, fight, and win in Ghazni Afghanistan.

COL Michael is married to the former Sandra Stanford of Georgetown Guyana, and they are proud parents of Vaughn, Shane, Sean and Chanel.