



Colonel Andrew C. Hilmes

COL Andrew C. Hilmes earned his commission as an Armor Officer in 1995 from the United States Military Academy. Upon completion of the Armor Officer Basic Course, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, where he served as a Tank Platoon Leader, Tank Company Executive Officer, Support Platoon Leader, and Battalion S4. While serving with the "Mustangs," COL Hilmes deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, in support of Operation Joint Forge, from 1998-1999.

Following completion of the Infantry Captains Career Course in 2000, COL Hilmes was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he served as Assistant Battalion Operations Officer and again deployed to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Forge from 2000-2001. Upon return from Bosnia, COL Hilmes took command of Headquarters Company, 1-64 Armor in June 2001. He took command of A Company, 1-64 Armor in May 2002 and deployed to Kuwait in September 2002 for what ultimately became the initial ground invasion of Iraq, Operation Iraqi Freedom. COL Hilmes was assigned as the Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, 3rd Infantry Division, after redeploying his company from Iraq in August 2003.

Upon graduation from the US Army Command and General Staff College (2006) and School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS) with a Masters Degree in 2007, COL Hilmes was assigned as a Plans Officer in the Headquarters of the 1st Cavalry Division, Baghdad, Iraq. Upon redeployment from Iraq, he was assigned as the Operations Officer, 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood in April 2008. COL Hilmes deployed with 1/7 Cavalry to Iraq in February 2009, became the Squadron Executive Officer in April 2009 and remained in position through June 2010.

COL Hilmes commanded 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, at Fort Benning, GA from January 7, 2011 until May 1, 2013. Following command, COL Hilmes served as the G3 (Operations Officer), for the Maneuver Center of Excellence and Fort Benning. He recently graduated from the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL with a second Masters Degree.

Among COL Hilmes' awards are the Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters. His badges include the Combat Action Badge, Parachutist Badge, and Air Assault Badge.

COL Hilmes is married to the former Nicole Hess of Bloomington, IL and they have 3 children; Jocelyn (13), Drew (10), and Madison (9).