



Colonel Dirk H. Smith Jr.
Chief, United States Training Mission (USMTM)
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Colonel Dirk H. Smith Jr was commissioned as an Infantry Officer from Rutgers University on 16 May 1996.

After completing the United States Army's Basic Airborne Course and the Infantry Officer Basic Course, at Fort Benning, Georgia, COL Smith went on to serve in numerous Infantry assignments in the 25thID (L), to include Rifle Platoon Leader, Rifle Company Executive Officer and Support Platoon Leader. COL Smith attended the Special Forces Qualification course in 2001. Over the next 12 years during numerous combat deployments, COL Smith served as an Operational Detachment Commander (A-Team), Company Executive Officer, Special Forces Company Commander (AOB), Battalion Executive Officer and Special Forces Group S3 Forward. In between his company and field grade commands at 5th SFG (A), COL Smith commanded a Military Transition Team for 14 months from 2007-2008, supporting the 9th Iraqi Army Division in Northern Baghdad, Iraq. From June 2012 to June 2013, COL Smith served as the Deputy Commanding Officer for Special Operations Task Force North (SOTF-N) where he synchronized the combat operations of a Special Operations Force-Conventional Force TF in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF). Upon his return COL Smith served as the Division Chief P&F, G-3/5/7 Special Operations Directorate. After transitioning to becoming a Foreign Area Officer, COL Smith served as the Acting Defense Attaché/Army Attaché and Assistant Army Attaché for 17 months where he stood up the newly authorized Defense Attaché Office (DAO) at the US Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. In May 2018 he served as the Director of the Security Assistance Office, Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan, Operation Resolute Support. COL Smith then went on to serve as the International Military Affairs Chief, Security Cooperation Directorate, ARSOUTH, JBSA, San Antonio, Texas. COL Smith's most recent assignments included both the Security Cooperation Operations Division Chief and Assistant Deputy Director, Security Cooperation, CCJ5, MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida.

Colonel Smith is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Advance Course at Fort Benning, GA, Special Forces Qualification Course, Fort Bragg, NC, Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey California, and the Pakistan National Defense University, Islamabad, Pakistan.

Colonel Smith's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal w/1OLC, Bronze Star w/3OLCs, Defense Meritorious Service Medal w/2OLC, Meritorious Service Medal w/2OLC, Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantry Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Army Staff Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. COL Smith has served eight combat deployments and numerous other operational tours forward.