

## 4<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM COMMANDER

### COL JOSEPH D. WAWRO



Colonel Joseph D. Wawro is a native of Chicago, Ill. He attended Wentworth Military Academy and the University of Illinois where he majored in mathematics and history. In 1988, he was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate through the Reserve Officer Training Course program as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. in Armor. Additionally, he has earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Embry-Riddle University in 1998 and a Masters Degree in National Security and Policy Making from the Naval War College in 2008.

Col. Wawro's first assignment after Armor Officer Basic Course was 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 69<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment in Kitzingen, Germany. During his tour he was a tank platoon leader, scout platoon leader and Battalion Motor Officer. After attending Armor Officer Advanced Course and Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course in 1992, he was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment in Bad Hersfeld, Germany as the Assistant S3. In 1993, Col. Wawro was assigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Squadron, 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment in Schwienfurt, Germany which became 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment where he served as the Assistant S3, Trp. B Commander, and Headquarters and Headquarters Troop Commander.

While serving as the HHT Commander, he deployed to Bosnia as part of the Implementation Force's (IFOR) Task Force Eagle for 12 months.

In 1997, he was assigned to the National Training Center (NTC), at Fort Irwin, Calif. Operations Group as an Observer/Controller. He was on the Cobra Team as Cobra 20 (Armor/Cavalry/Scout Trainer) and 7T for a total of 26 rotations.

Upon completion of Command and General Staff College in 2000, he was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 68<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment at Fort Carson, Colo. where he served as the Battalion S3 then as the Executive Officer.

In 2002, Col. Wawro served as the Regimental Executive Officer for 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Polk, La. for 27 months. During this time, he deployed to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom I until July, 2004.

In 2005, he assumed command of 4<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment at Camp Casey, Korea. After his command, he was assigned as the Division G3 (Operations Officer) of 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division at Camp Red Cloud, Korea.

In 2008, he attended the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. Upon completion of the war college, he was assigned to the NTC in Jun 2009 where he served as the Chief of Staff for 15 months.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with oak leave cluster, Bronze Star with oak leave cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with 4 oak leave clusters, Army Commendation Medal with V device, Army Commendation Medal with 3 oak leave clusters, and Army Achievement Medal with silver oak leave cluster. His badges include the Combat Action Badge and Parachute Wings.