



Colonel Al Niles, Jr.

Project Manager, Cargo Helicopters

Colonel Al M. Niles, Jr., assumed duties as the Project Manager for the Cargo Helicopters Project Office in July 2019.

COL Niles was commissioned as an Army Aviator after graduating from Tuskegee University in 1997, and holds two Master of Science degrees. He earned the first in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 2002 and the second in Science Management from Florida Institute of Technology in 2010. He most recently attended the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he earned a Master of Strategic Studies degree.

COL Niles' acquisition assignments include PEO Soldier at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, where he served as the Assistant Product Manager (APM), Air Warrior and APM Personnel Recovery Support Equipment from 2006 to 2009. Later, he was the APM for the A/MH-6 Little Bird, MH-47 Chinook, MH-60 Black Hawk, SOF Future Vertical Lift and Unmanned aviation programs at the U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. He also served as a Training with Industry Officer at Lockheed Martin Simulation, Training & Support division in Orlando, Florida from June 2015 to June 2016. Afterwards, COL Niles served as the Product Manager for Special Operations Forces Training Systems at PEO for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (STRI) in Orlando, Florida from June 2016 to June 2018.

COL Niles' operational assignments include Camp Humphreys, Korea, Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia and Fort Wainwright, Alaska. He served as a CH-47D (Chinook) Maintenance Test Pilot, Flight Operations Officer, Airspace Command and Control Officer and Company Commander during Operation Iraqi Freedom in January 2005 (Task Force Warfighter). He is qualified in the TH-67 (Bell 206), OH-58 A/C and CH-47D Chinook. Operational support and combat deployments with conventional and Special Operations units include Bosnia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Bahrain and Qatar.

COL Niles' military awards and decorations include a Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medals (Three Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Commendation Medals (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medals (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Korean Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with a campaign star, Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon with Numeral 3, National Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Senior Aviator Badge. Additional awards are the Order of Saint Maurice (Legionnaire) and Order of Saint Michael (Bronze).



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