



U.S. ARMY

HQDA | Office of the Chief of Engineers

Contingency Construction & Operational Energy
Branch Chief
MAJ Chet Kraft



Major Chet Kraft has served on the Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) Staff as the Contingency Construction and Operational Energy Branch Chief for the Office of the Chief of Engineers (OCE) since completing a fellowship at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency in June 2025.

MAJ Kraft grew up in Huntsville, Alabama and was commissioned as an Engineer Officer from the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University ROTC in Prescott, Arizona in May 2010. After commissioning, MAJ Kraft attended the Engineer Basic Officer Leadership Course in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri graduating in March 2011.



MAJ Kraft's first assignment was to the 92nd Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy) in Fort Stewart, Georgia. While in the 92nd, he served as a Route Clearance Platoon Leader, Battle Captain, and Battalion S1, and deployed twice to Kandahar, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2011 and again in 2013. After returning from deployment, he was selected for an internship at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, as an Engineering Manager until May 2014.

In 2014, MAJ Kraft returned to Fort Leonard Wood to attend the Engineer Captain's Career Course before being assigned to the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) at Fort Belvoir, Virginia where he served as the Current Operations officer until March 2016. In 2016 he was selected to take command of Alpha Company, 249th Engineer Battalion, located in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. While in command, Major Kraft oversaw over 100 individual deployments around the world. Following extended deployments in support of Hurricane Marie, Alpha Company was selected to receive the prestigious Itschner Award, as the most outstanding active-duty engineer company in the Army for 2017. MAJ Kraft completed 27 months in command in March of 2018.

Following company command, MAJ Kraft returned to Washington, D.C. where he served in the Command Support Group for the Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a Special Assistant to the Commanding General throughout 2020 before being selected to attend his Intermediate level Education at the Australian Command and Staff Course, in Canberra, Australia in 2021. In 2022, MAJ Kraft and his family moved to Louisville, Kentucky, where he served as the Battalion Operations and later Executive Officer for the nine companies of the geographically-dispersed 19th Engineer Battalion at Fort Knox until 2024.

MAJ Kraft holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, a Master of Science in Engineering Management from The George Washington University, a Masters of Military and Defence Studies from the Australian National University, and is currently a Doctoral Candidate in the Doctor of Systems Engineering program at The George Washington University. He has been married to Mrs. Megan Kyker since August of 2020.

MAJ Kraft's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), the Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC), the Navy Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal (1 OLC), the Meritorious Unit Commendation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Combat Action Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal.