

COL Steven E. Putthoff

Deputy Commander for Operations

Colonel Steven Putthoff is a native of Iowa Park, Texas. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and received his commission in the Ordnance Corps through ROTC. COL Putthoff has served in command positions at the company, battalion and brigade levels and staff positions from battalion to Combatant Command including operational deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.



COL Putthoff's notable assignments include Automotive Platoon Leader, Battalion S4, Maintenance Control Officer, and Battalion Operations Officer (S2/3) in the 544th Maintenance Battalion, 13 COSCOM at Fort Hood, TX. He served as the Support Operations Maintenance Officer and HQ/Alpha Company Commander, 101st Forward Support Battalion, 1/1 ID at Fort Riley including a deployment in support of OIF from 2003-2004. He then transitioned to Army Human Resources Command as a Board Recorder for selection boards followed by attendance at the Irish Defence Forces Command and Staff College. COL Putthoff then moved to Ft. Lewis with I Corps as the G4 Readiness Officer including their deployment to Iraq as MNC-I/USF-I from 2008-2009. He then served as the 296th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), 3-2 SBCT Battalion Executive Officer and subsequently as the Support Operations Officer (SPO) and Brigade S4 during the brigade's deployment to Afghanistan from 2011 through 2012. In 2014 he assumed command of 2nd Brigade Support Battalion, 2-2 SBCT at JBLM, WA. Following Battalion Command, COL Putthoff attended the Eisenhower School War College at the National Defense University Ft. McNair, DC. Completion of War College saw a move to Fort Carson, CO and assignment to the 4th Infantry Division where he served as G4 for two years, including five months deployed as the USFOR-A J4, then as Commander, 4ID Sustainment Brigade from 2019-2021. As brigade commander, the 4th ID Sustainment Brigade was allocated to USNORTHCOM and directly supported the DoD response to the Southwest Border Mission and COVID pandemic providing logistics and contracting support for medical personnel supporting civilian hospitals across the U.S. COL Putthoff served at USTRANSCOM as the J3 Military Deputy Director of Operations during which time the command supported the historic air evacuation from Afghanistan in 2021 and movement of security assistance support to Ukraine in response to Russian aggression. COL Putthoff most recently served as Director of Operations at SDDC, responsible for day-to-day oversight of G3 operations and support.

COL Putthoff's military education includes the Ordnance Officer Basic Course, the Combined Logistics Captains Career Course, the Combined Arms and Service Staff School, the Irish Defence Forces CGSC, and the Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy. Civilian education includes an MS in Logistics Management from Florida Institute of Technology, an MA in Leadership, Management, and Defense Studies from the National University of Ireland, and an MA in National Security and Resource Strategy from National Defense University.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, the Parachutist Badge, and the Combat Action Badge.

COL Putthoff and his wife have a son and a daughter.