LIEUTENANT COLONEL NATHAN PLAYER
Commander, West Desert Center, Dugway Proving Ground, Utah

Lieutenant Colonel Nathan Player currently serves as Commander, West Desert Center, Dugway Proving Ground, where he leads the organization's mission to deliver integrated test and training capabilities in support of the warfighter.

Prior to this assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Player served as the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Security Cooperation and Arms Control Branch Chief, Weapons of Mass Destruction Division, Plans Directorate, U.S. European Command. His previous assignments include Operations Officer, Defense Threat Reduction Agency Director's Action Group; Chief of Operations, Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty; Executive Officer, Raleigh Recruiting Battalion; Chief of Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Plans and CBRN Operations, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne); Assistant Professor of Military Science, Eastern Kentucky University; Joint Future Operations Planner, Special Operations Command Korea; and Commander, U.S. Army Recruiting Company Waco.

His earlier assignments include Battalion CBRN Officer, 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, including deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; Headquarters and Headquarters Company Executive Officer, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, including deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and Dismounted CBRN Reconnaissance Platoon Leader, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 25th Infantry Division.

Lieutenant Colonel Player's military education includes the Joint and Combined Warfighting School; Colombian Military Superior School of War; Joint Special Operations Command Advanced Staff Course; U.S. Army Special Operations Command Unconventional Warfare Planners Course; Joint Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction Planners Course; Department of Energy Nuclear Weapons Planning Course; CBRN Technical Escort Course; and the Chemical Officers Advanced and Basic Courses.

Lieutenant Colonel Player enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve as a Chemical Operations Specialist in April 2005. He was commissioned through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program and entered active duty in September 2007. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, with a minor in Military Science, from Southern Utah University and a Master of Science in Environmental Management from Webster University.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Instructor Badge, Gold Army Recruiter Badge, and Combat Action Badge.

Lieutenant Colonel Player is married to Andrea Player. They have four children: Sam, Analynne, Luke, and Grant.