



## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

### **75th RANGER REGIMENT**

*PUBLIC AFFAIRS, FORT BENNING GA. 706-545-4260*

## **COL. CHRISTOPHER VANEK**

### **Incoming Regimental Commanding Officer**

Assumed command July 25, 2013

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Col. Christopher S. Vanek was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in 1989 upon graduation from Arizona State University. He attended the Infantry Officer Basic Course and was assigned to the 1/14<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division from 1991 to 1993 as a rifle platoon leader and company executive officer. He was then selected for assignment to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment where he served as a rifle platoon leader from 1993 to 1994.

From 1994 to 1995, Vanek attended the Infantry Officer Advanced Course and then served as a battalion logistics officer and rifle company commander with the 1-501<sup>st</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Richardson, Alaska from 1995 to 1997.

In 1998, he joined 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment where he served until 2004 with a 10 month assignment to Fort Leavenworth, Kan. to attend the Command and General Staff College from 2000 to 2001.

While at 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 75<sup>th</sup> Rgr. Rgt., Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., he served as the battalion logistics officer, rifle company commander, battalion liaison, operations and executive officer and deployed multiple times in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

From 2004 to 2006 he served in the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment Regimental Headquarters at Fort Benning, Ga., as the regimental operations officer and deputy commanding officer while also serving as the Joint Task Force Operations Officer in Operation Enduring Freedom.

From 2006 to 2007, Vanek served as the Joint Special Operations Command Commanding General's Executive Assistance in operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. From 2007 to 2009 he assumed command of the 1/87<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. where he deployed with the battalion for 15 months in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In 2009 he returned to the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment where he again served as the Regiment's deputy commanding officer until 2011. From 2011 to 2012, he commanded 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Hawaii and from 2012 to 2013 he attended the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Vanek holds a Bachelor's Degree from Arizona State University and two Masters Degrees.