



U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES
COMMAND (AIRBORNE)
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <http://www.soc.mil>

BRIG. GEN. GARY M. JONES
Commanding General
Assumed command on Sept. 15, 2003

Born in Shreveport, La., Brig. Gen. Gary M. Jones graduated from Louisiana State University in 1977 with a Bachelor's degree in general law and was commissioned there as a second lieutenant in the Army's Military Intelligence branch.

His first assignment was in Germany from 1978 to 1980, where he branch transferred from Military Intelligence to the Infantry and commanded a rifle company in 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized).

He then graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course in 1982 and was assigned to the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, NC. He served with the 5th SFG as an Operational Detachment-A commander and a company commander from 1983 to 1986.

In 1987, Jones was appointed the executive officer of the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg. He then served with the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Bragg from 1989 to 1991 as a company commander and group operations officer, and participated in Operation Promote Liberty in the Republic of Panama.

Following his tour with the 7th SFG, he was then transferred to be the executive officer, J-3, U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. from 1991 to 1993.

Jones returned to Fort Bragg to serve as battalion commander for 2nd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) from 1993 to 1995. During his command, he led 2nd Battalion to Haiti in support of Operation Uphold Democracy.

Following battalion command, he served as the deputy chief of staff for the United States Army Special Operations Command and then attended the U.S. Army War College. He returned to Fort Bragg in June 1997 as the deputy commanding officer of the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne). From January to June 1998 he commanded the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Jones assumed command of the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) in July 1998 and was later assigned as special assistant to the commanding general of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

His other general officer assignments include serving as the deputy commanding general of USASOC and the commanding general of Special Operations Command Europe in Germany.

Jones' awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Pathfinder Badge and the Special Forces tab.

