



**1<sup>ST</sup> SPECIAL FORCES COMMAND**  
**(AIRBORNE)(PROVISIONAL)**  
H2313 PSYOP LANE  
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28310-9110  
1<sup>ST</sup> SFC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE: 910-908-3947



## **MAJ. GENERAL JAMES E. KRAFT, JR.**

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Maj.General James E. Kraft, Jr. was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from Towson University in 1986, was selected as an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate, and received his commission in the Infantry.

While serving in the 1-27th Infantry in Hawaii, his assignments included duty as a rifle and scout platoon leader and company executive officer with deployments to Australia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand.

In 1991, Kraft graduated the Special Forces Qualification Course and was assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) where he has commanded at every level to include Detachment Commander, two Special Forces Companies, Group Support Company, 3rd Battalion, and Group Command.



During his 7th Group tenure, Kraft deployed many times throughout Central and South America and twice in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM-Afghanistan as both a Special Operations Task Force and Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force commander. He previously served as the deputy commanding general, Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Kraft's staff assignments include joint staff intern, Army SOF personnel systems staff officer, group executive officer, speechwriter and later aide-de-camp to the 29th Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, USASOC G3, SFCMD (Airborne) chief of staff, executive officer to the commander, USSOCOM, and the assistant commanding general, Joint Special Operations Command. Kraft currently serves as the commanding general of 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne) (Provisional).

Kraft's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster (OLC), Legion of Merit with two OLC, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with silver OLC, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with four OLC, and the Army Achievement Medal with one OLC. He has earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Joint and Army Staff Identification Badges, and the Ranger and Special Forces Tabs. He holds a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and a Master of Science Degree in Joint Campaign Planning and Strategy from the Joint Advanced Warfighting School.

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