



## **5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE)**

### ***BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

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

## **COL. KEVIN C. LEAHY**

### **5<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE) COMMANDER**

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A native of Oakland, New Jersey, Col. Kevin Leahy began his military career when he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve in December 1989. He later entered the Reserve Officer Training Corps and graduated from the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania in May 1993. Commissioned a Military Police officer, Leahy served in a series of Military Police positions in Korea, Egypt and Fort Campbell, before entering the Special Forces Qualification Course.



Upon completion of the Special Forces Qualification Course and Arabic Language Course in 1998, Leahy was assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, where he served as Special Forces A-Team commander and company commander. During this time Leahy participated in operational deployments to Kuwait, Jordan and Kosovo. In November 2001, Leahy deployed with the 5th SFG (A) to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2002, Leahy was assigned as a Special Operations Assignment Officer at the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, Alexandria, Virginia.

In 2004, Leahy attended the US Army Command and General Staff College returning to 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group in 2005. At 5<sup>th</sup> SFG (A), Leahy served as the group assistant operations officer, Special Forces Company commander and group operations officer. In these positions, Leahy participated in multiple deployments to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

From 2008 to 2010, Leahy served as a staff officer at the U.S. Special Operations Command in Tampa, Florida, and again deployed to Iraq and served as operations officer J3, Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Arabian Peninsula. Leahy returned to Fort Campbell, in the summer of 2010 to command 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne). Following battalion command in September 2012, Leahy was assigned to the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne) as the assistant chief of staff for operations (G3).

In August 2013, Leahy assumed command of Special Operations Command Forward - Central Africa where he oversaw U.S. operations to counter the Lord's Resistance Army and the initial U.S. military response to the Boko Haram terrorist group in Nigeria.

Leahy's military education includes: the U.S. Army Military Police Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Special Forces Qualification Course, Command and General Staff College and U.S. Army War College Fellowship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Leahy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Scranton and Master of Military Arts and Sciences from the US Army Command and General Staff College.