

WILLIAM L. KIRBY
Colonel, United States Army

Executive Officer to Commander, Allied Land Forces Command



COL William Kirby was born in Vicenza, Italy and grew up in Huntsville, Alabama. He graduated and was commissioned from Texas A&M University in 1995. Following completion of the Field Artillery Officer basic Course in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, he was assigned to the 3d battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. While there, he served as a Company Fire Support Officer, a Battery Fire Direction Officer, the Battalion Support Platoon Leader, the Battalion S-1 and a Battery Executive Officer.

Upon completion of the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course in 2000, COL Kirby was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division HQ in Wurzburg, Germany and later to the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment in Schweinfurt, Germany. While with 1/7, he served as the Battalion Fire Direction Officer, deploying in support of KFOR 4A, and a Firing battery Commander where he deployed in support of OIF II.

Upon Completion of Battery Command in 2005, COL Kirby was selected to instruct at the United States Military Academy in the Department of Military instruction. Following USMA, COL Kirby attended the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

In June of 2008, COL Kirby returned to Fort Bragg, where he was assigned to the 18th Airborne Corps; deploying immediately to Multi-National Corps Iraq's joint Fires Cell as the Force Field Artillery Chief. Upon his return, he was reassigned to the 3d Battalion, 321st Field Artillery Regiment. While there, he served as the Battalion Operations Officer and the Battalion Executive Officer; deploying to Afghanistan with 2 Firing Batteries in support of CJTF-82 and CJTF-101.

Upon returning to Fort Bragg, COL Kirby was reassigned to the NATO Rapid Deployable Corps-Italy in Milan, Italy. While there, he served as the G3 Reports and Returns, the G5 Plans and Policy Coordinator and as the Senior National Representative.

In June of 2013, COL Kirby assumed command of the 4th Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment in Grafenwohr, Germany; part of the 173d Airborne Brigade. Following command, COL Kirby was assigned to the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, where he served as the Senior Fire Support Trainer and head of the "Wolf Team."

Following NTC, COL Kirby attended the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he earned a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies.

After attendance of the USAWC, COL Kirby was assigned to the Multinational Corps Northeast in Szczecin, Poland, where he served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Joint Fires, Influence, and Targeting and the Senior National Representative for the U.S. Contingent

COL Kirby Commanded the 19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment, USAREUR from 2018-2020. He is currently the Executive Officer for Commander, Allied Land Forces Command in Izmir, Turkey.

COL Kirby holds a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science from Texas A&M University, a Masters of Military Operational Arts and Science from the Air Command and Staff College and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (5 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Combat Action Badge and the Senior Parachutist Badge.

COL Kirby is married to the former Ms. Jessica Sojka of Washington, Iowa. They have three children, Liam (20), Ryan (17) and Hudson (14).