



**COLONEL PAUL J. LAUGHLIN**  
**COMMANDANT, UNITED STATES ARMY ARMOR SCHOOL**

Colonel Paul J. Laughlin, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was commissioned in Armor at the University of Massachusetts. His military education includes the Armor Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, and a master's degrees from the National War College. He also holds a master's degree from Central Michigan University.

Colonel Laughlin's first assignment was at Fort Hood in 1986 where he served as a tank platoon leader, support platoon leader and battalion adjutant, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 67<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment. Next, he was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 35<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment at Bamberg, Germany as the S3 Air and deployed to Opn Desert Shield and Storm. He then commanded D Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 37<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment 1<sup>st</sup> AD, and then served with 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> ID as the brigade's Chief of Plans and commanded the HHC in Vilseck, Germany. Following this, he served as an Office of the Secretary of Defense Intern and then as an Armor Branch Assignment Officer in Washington DC. He then served as the I Corps Field Grade Manager at Fort Lewis, Washington before deploying to serve as the military advisor and liaison from 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division to the Office of High Representative in Brcko, Bosnia during Opn Joint Endeavor. Later, he served as battalion executive officer for 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 32<sup>nd</sup> Armor Regiment and then as the brigade S3 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> ID (the initial Stryker Brigade for the Army) at Fort Lewis, Washington. He was then assigned to the NTC at Ft Irwin, California and served as the Operations Group Chief of Plans. Colonel Laughlin then commanded 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 72<sup>nd</sup> Armor Regiment at Camp Casey Korea followed by duty as the 2<sup>nd</sup> ID G3 at Camp Red Cloud, Korea. Following this, he served as the Armor Branch Chief in Washington DC prior to becoming the 63<sup>rd</sup> Regimental Commander for 11<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Irwin, California. Following Regimental command, he deployed to Afghanistan and served as the Senior Military Advisor for the Afghanistan Minister of Defense during OEF. Before arriving to Fort Benning, he was serving as the Executive Officer for the Commanding General of US Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany.

His awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit (w/2OLC), Bronze Star Medal, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal w/5OLC, the Joint

Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal w/4OLC, the Army Achievement Medal w/4OLC, the Southwest Asia Service Medal w/2 campaign stars, the Afghan Campaign Medal w/2 campaign stars, the GWOT Service Medal, the Overseas Ribbon w/numeral 3, and the NATO Service Medal. Additionally, he has the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Valorous Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award and the Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge.