



NATO School Biography



Colonel Mark D. Baines
United States Army
Commandant

As the Commandant of NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany, Colonel Baines commands a faculty and staff representing 26 different NATO and Partnership for Peace nations, and is responsible for all aspects of NATO School's operation.

Colonel Mark D. Baines is a native of New Hampshire and was born in August of 1961. After graduation from Manchester Central High School, he attended Norwich University where he received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. Additional degrees include a Masters of Science Degree in Administration from Central Michigan University and a Masters in National Security and Strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His assignments over the past 28 years include:

Platoon Leader, 72nd Signal Battalion
Company Commander, 97th Signal Battalion
Communications Officer, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment
S3 Operations Officer, 11th Signal Brigade
Presidential Communications Officer, The White House
Battalion Commander, 44th Signal Battalion
G6/C6, III Corps and CJTF-7 Iraq
Brigade Commander, 21st Signal Brigade
G3/Deputy Commander, 5th Signal Command

His military schooling includes the Signal Officer Basic and Advance Courses, the Combined Armed Services Staff Course, the Joint Staff Officers Course, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the National Defense Service Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), the Air Assault Badge, and the Presidential Service Badge. Colonel Baines also possesses the Silver Order of Mercury from the US Army Signal Regiment.