



# Special Operations Command Europe

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## Major General Kirk W. Smith Commander

Major General Smith was commissioned following his graduation from the United States Air Force Academy in 1989. After completing pilot training, he remained at Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, as a T-37 instructor pilot. Following MH-53H qualification, he completed multiple operational flying assignments to include squadron command. Major General Smith has been assigned to major command air staff and joint level staffs.

Major General Smith has served in key leadership positions to include Commander, 21st Special Operations Squadron, Vice Commander, 27th Special Operations Wing and Commander, Joint Special Operations Aviation Detachment, Bagram, Afghanistan.



Major General Smith has completed multiple combat deployments in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation FREEDOM'S SENTINEL. Prior to joining SOCEUR, Major General Smith served as the Deputy Commanding General-Operations, NATO Special Operations Component Command/Special Operations Joint Task Force-Afghanistan, Bagram, Afghanistan. Major General Smith holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the United States Air Force Academy and a Master of Science in International Relations from Troy University.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Air Medal. He has earned his Command Pilot Wings and the Army Parachutist Badge.

His military education includes the Squadron Officer School, the Air Command and Staff College, and the National War College.