

Colonel John Cooper, a native of Humboldt Tennessee earned his commission from the University of Tennessee at Martin through the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) and entered Active Duty in 1989 as a Military Intelligence Officer.

His previous assignments include service with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as G2 Operations Officer-in-Charge during Desert Shield/ Desert Storm. Tactical Intelligence Officer with the 187th Infantry Regiment (Rakassans)as Assistant Regimental S2; 2nd Battalion, 187th Infantry Battalion (Rakassan Raiders) Battalion S2; and 101st Division Artillery S2.

Upon graduation from the Military Intelligence Officer Advance Course, he was assigned as an Instructor at the Military Intelligence School and Center at Fort Huachuca, Arizona where he taught tactics to Military Intelligence Officer Basic Course Lieutenants from 1995-1996. In January 1996, he assumed company command of Delta Company, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion until March 1997. Following command, he was reassigned to the Office of the Chief of Military Intelligence at Fort Huachuca, Arizona where he served as Executive Officer and Professional Development Officer until June 1998.

From June 1998 until August 2001, COL Cooper served with the Total Army Personnel Command (PERSCOM) (now Human Resource Command) in Alexandria, Virginia, as the Mliitary Intelligence Professional Development/Forward Readiness Officer; MI Captains' Career Manager/Assignments Officer and FA43/Human Resources Assignments Officer.

From August 2003 until June 2006, he served as the 115th Military Intelligence Group, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii Brigade S1; Director of the Human Resources Directorate for US Army Garrison-Hawaii and Deputy G1, US Army Pacific Command G1, Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

From July 2006 - August 2011, COL Cooper served in various positions between Fort McPherson, Ga and Kuwait under Third Army/USARCENT. He served as Chief, Plans and Operations; Adjutant General; Assistant G1; Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff and Commanding General and G1, ARCENT-Atlanta. COL Cooper currently serves as Deputy Commander, Soldier Support Institute.

His military and civilian education includes graduation from the Military Intelligence Officers' Basic Course; the Military Intelligence Officers' Advanced Course; the Combined Arms Staff Services School (CAS3), the US Army Command and General Staff Officers' College (CGSOC); the Intelligence Electronic Warfare Course; and the Intelligence Counter-Terrorism Course. He holds a bachelor's Degree in Business Administration Management from the University of Tennessee at Martin, a Masters of Arts degree in Organizational Management from Phoenix-Arizona University and an Executive Masters of Business Administration (EMBA) degree from George Mason University.

His awards include the Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal (40LC), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (20LC), the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He has also been awarded the Parachutist and the Air Assault badges.

He is married with two sons.