

LTC KAREN J. ROE
Battalion Commander
53rd Signal Battalion

LTC Karen J. Roe was born in New York and grew up all over the world as a military dependent. LTC Roe graduated from Giessen High School in Germany and attended the U.S. Military Academy where she earned her Bachelor of Science. Upon graduation from West Point, LTC Roe was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Signal Corps.

LTC Roe began her career as a troposcatter platoon leader, MSE platoon leader, and executive officer for the 16th Signal Battalion, 3rd Signal Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas. She then deployed to Korea as the battalion S-1 and later became the company commander for Alpha Company, 22nd Signal Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Korea. Upon completion of command and her return to the United States, LTC Roe served as an Officer Basic Course instructor and tactical officer, 442nd Signal Battalion, Fort Gordon, Ga.



LTC Roe's next assignment was as the lieutenant and captain assignment officer for the Human Resource Command, Alexandria, Va. She later deployed to Kuwait and served as the brigade S-3 for the 160th Signal Brigade, Camp Arifjan, where she provided communications support for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon her redeployment, LTC Roe was assigned as the S-3, and later executive officer, for the 53rd Signal Battalion (SATCON), Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Upon completion of this mission, LTC Roe was assigned as the professor of Military of Science at Augusta State University, Augusta, Ga. LTC Roe recently returned from her latest deployment to Iraq where she served in support of Operation New Dawn and Office of Security Cooperation - Iraq. During this tour, LTC Roe served as the chief of staff for the Iraq Train and Assist Mission- Army and as a strategist for the Chief's Integration Group.

Her military education includes the Signal Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Services Staff School, and the Naval War College where she earned her master's degree in national defense and strategic studies.

Her awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (one oak leaf cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (four oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal (two oak leaf clusters), the Bronze Order of Mercury, the Army Space Badge, the Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

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