



BIOGRAPHY



Lieutenant General Michael H. Shields

Lieutenant General Michael H. Shields became the Director of the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Agency (JIDA) on July 30, 2015. He is responsible for enabling Department of Defense actions to counter improvised threats with tactical responsiveness and anticipatory acquisition in support of combatant commanders' efforts to prepare for, and adapt to, battlefield surprise in the areas of counter-terrorism, counter-insurgency and other related mission areas including counter-improvised explosive device.

Lieutenant General Shields received his commission through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at Norwich University in 1983 and was promoted to his current rank in July 2015.

LTG Shields has commanded at all levels. His first command was as the Bravo Company commander, 4th Battalion (Mechanized), 12th Infantry, 8th Infantry Division in Germany. He then became Commander, Long Range Surveillance Detachment in the 1st Armored Division under the Seventh Army. After various staff assignments, he returned to Fort Bragg, N.C., and took command of the 3d Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division

LTG Shields commanded the 172d Brigade Stryker Combat Team both at Fort Wainwright, Alaska and during combat operations in Iraq. He served in two other operational deployments: Assistant Chief of Staff of Operations for Coalition Task Force-82 supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan; and Director of Future Operations for the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command.

LTG Shields has engaged in a variety of strategic positions. Beginning with Chief of the Eastern Europe and Eurasia Division, then as the Assistant Deputy Director for Joint Staff J-5 Europe, NATO, Russia, and Africa Policy Division. LTG Shields became the Director of the National Joint Operations Intelligence Center, J-3. Following his tour with NJOIC he was initially assigned as Deputy Director for Operational Requirements at JIEDDO then during the surge in Afghanistan, he became the Deputy Director for Operations and Intelligence. He then served as the Director, Pakistan/Afghanistan Coordination Cell, Joint Staff J-5.

This is LTG Shields' second tour with JIDA returning from his most recent assignment as Commanding General, United States Army Alaska.

His education includes two master's degrees, one in administration from Central Michigan University and another in strategic studies from the Army War College.

Lieutenant General Shields' awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ranger Tab, Pathfinder Badge and the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.