



Brig. Gen. William D. “Hank” Taylor
Commanding General
U.S. Army Operational Test Command



Brig. Gen. Taylor enlisted in the Field Artillery in 1988 and was commissioned in 1990 as a 2nd Lieut. in the Infantry Branch. Upon graduation from Brigham Young University (BYU) in 1991, he attended the Aviation Officer Basic Course and Flight School. His first assignment was as an OH-58D Scout Platoon Leader and then as the Squadron Adjutant in 1st Squadron (Air), 17th Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Following the Armor Officer Advanced Course and the Cavalry Leaders Course, he commanded D Troop, 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, in the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Stanton, Korea.

After troop command, Brig. Gen. Taylor served as an Attack/Recon Troop trainer in the 21st Cavalry Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas. He then attended graduate school at BYU, earning a Masters of Science Degree in Exercise Physiology. He then taught boxing, combatives, and exercise design in the Department of Physical Education (DPE) at the United States Military Academy. In early 2002, he deployed to Afghanistan and served as a Joint Planner/CJ5 in CJTF-180 (18ABC) in support of OEF I.

Upon graduation from the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Brig. Gen. Taylor was assigned as the Squadron S3 and XO in the 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT), where the Squadron deployed to Iraq/OIF in 2005-2006. Brig. Gen. Taylor was selected to serve as the Chief of Operations (CHOPS) of the 101st Airborne Division and served in this position for two years, including a deployment to OEF as the CJ33 of CJTF-101/RC-East in 2008-2009.

From 2009 to 2011, Brig. Gen. Taylor commanded the 2nd Squadron (Air), 17th Cavalry Regiment/TF Saber, and deployed as an aviation TF in support of OEF in RC-South. After Squadron command, he served as the Aviation Branch Chief/OPMD at the United States Army Human Resources Command. Upon graduation from the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Brig. Gen. Taylor deployed to OEF as the CJ3/G3 of RC-East and CJTF-101 from May 2013 through February 2014. From 2014 to 2016, Brig. Gen. Taylor commanded the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade in Korea and then served as the Chief of Staff for the 8th United States Army from 2016 to 2017. Most recently, Brig. Gen. Taylor served as the Deputy Commanding General-Maneuver 1st Cavalry Division.

Among Brig. Gen. Taylor’s awards and decorations are the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (5th Award), Army Commendation Medal with “V” device, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Valorous Unit Award, Combat Action Badge, Master Army Aviator Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and Air Assault Badge.