

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS REGIMENT



**COLONEL
RICHARD "RICK" D. SPRINGETT**
U.S. Army, Retired

Inducted April 20, 2023



Colonel Rick Springett received his commission as an infantry officer in 1988 after his bachelors in psychology. He distinguished himself through his exceptionally superior service to the Psychological Operations Regiment while serving in numerous positions. One such position was Chief, Military Information Support Operations Branch, Information Operations Division Operations Directorate, United States Special Operations Command.

Until his military retirement in 2014, his inspirational leadership, acumen, mission focus, and unsurpassed operational expertise as the Military Information Support Operations Branch Chief, were critical to the successful conduct of comprehensive and complex strategic and trans-regional Military Information Support Operations directed against Al Qaida, their affiliates, and violent extremism. As Military Information Support Operations Branch Chief, he was responsible for the execution of four trans-regional military information support operations programs in support of the geographic combatant commands and theatre special operations commands. Furthermore, his efforts and activities directly challenged global extremist ideologies, leading to positive, direct, and measurable effects.

While serving as the Special Operations Command J-39 Chief for the Office of Strategic Effects, he was responsible for the development, integration, and execution of sensitive compartmentalized military information support operations on a global scale, directly leading to enhanced combat effectiveness. Other notable roles include service as commander of Joint Information Task Force for Special Operations and senior Military Information Support Operations advisor for the commander of Combined Forces Special Operations Component Commander for all influence activities. As the commander of 3rd Military Information Support Battalion (Airborne), he led the effort for the modernization of the Military Information Support Operations Command Media Operations Complex, ensuring the state-of-the-art facility for special operations forces enduring global operations. From 2004 – 2008, he spearheaded efforts that have significant effects on the Psychological Operations Regiment. Such effects included: establishment of the Psychological Operations and Civil Affairs Branches; establishment of the procedures and policies for the initial assessment of Psychological Operations and Civil Affairs officers; development of the Army Special Operations Forces Psychological Operations Strategic Vision; development of numerous equipment programs for Psychological Operations; and multiple design updates to the Psychological Operations force.

Following his retirement in 2014, he continued serving as a senior government civilian in the Special Activities Division while continuing to support various veterans' activities. He is president of the MacDill chapter of the Psychological Operations Regimental Association. From 2014 – 2021, Springett was the senior civilian plans analyst for the United States Special Operations Command Sensitive Activities Division. During this time, he deployed repeatedly to support mission requirements in Afghanistan and South-West Asia. This led to his selection as a program manager responsible for conducting compartmentalized operations in multiple locations on behalf of the combatant command and the Department of Defense. His outstanding performance contributed to his element receiving the National Intelligence Meritorious Unit Commendation.

He epitomizes the moral courage, commitment, and dedication to duty and continues to support the regiment. His distinctive accomplishments and significant commitment make him a revered member of the Psychological Operations Regiment.