



# BIOGRAPHY



## MISSISSIPPI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

### Colonel Joe D. Hargett

#### Chief of the Joint Staff, Mississippi Army National Guard

Colonel Joe D. Hargett serves as the Chief of the Joint Staff for the Mississippi National Guard (MSNG). As the Chief of the Joint Staff, he is responsible for the supervision and directing of the MSNG's staff, to include managing budgets and resources for all major MSNG programs. Colonel Hargett oversees the development and coordination of all policies, plans, and programs of the Mississippi National Guard.

Colonel Joe D. Hargett enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard in 1987. On 07 July 1990, he received his commission as a Military Police Officer from the Officer Candidate School. Following his commissioning, he was assigned as a Military Police Platoon Leader in the 112<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion. While assigned to the 112<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, he served in a variety of positions. In January 1991, he mobilized for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm with the 113<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company. In August 1994, he transferred to the 168<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade where he served in a variety of positions within the brigade including assistant operations officer, Headquarters Company Commander, Commander - Company C 890<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, and Intelligence Officer for the 890<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. In October 2002, he was reassigned to the 890<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion as the S3, Operations Officer. In February 2003, he deployed for fourteen months as the battalion S3 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF I). In October 2004, he was transferred and promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the 168<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade where he served as the S3, Operations Officer. In June 2006, he assumed command of the 890<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion. He successfully led his battalion's deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 08-10. His battalion's deployment success resulted in the 890<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion receiving the Meritorious Unit Citation. He culminated his tour as the Battalion Commander in February 2010. In March 2010, he was assigned as the Executive Officer, and subsequently in June 2011, the Deputy Brigade Commander for the 168<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade in Vicksburg, MS. He assumed command of the 168<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade in October 2012. Following a successful brigade command, he was reassigned to Joint Force Headquarters as the J-2, Intelligence Officer until February 2015. In March 2015, he was transferred to 66<sup>th</sup> Troop Command to serve as the Major Subordinate Command Deputy Commander and fulltime Administrative Officer. In August 2016, he assumed responsibility as the G-3, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations at Joint Force Headquarters. On 01 October 2018, COL Hargett was selected and assigned as the Chief of the Joint Staff, MSARNG where he continues to serve the Soldiers and Airmen of the Mississippi National Guard.



His professional organization memberships include National Guard Association of Mississippi Lifetime Member and President 2013 to 2014, National Guard Association of the United States Lifetime Member and Area IV (AR, KS, LA, MO, MS, OK, and TX) Director 2016 to present, and Lifetime Member of the U.S. Army War College Alumni Association and Army Engineer Association, among many other organizations. He also possess a private pilot license and enjoys recreational aviation.

**EDUCATION:**

He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering Technology from the University of Southern Mississippi, Master of Business Administration from Jackson State University, and a Masters of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His military education and training is an extensive list which include the Air Assault Course, Combined Arms and Service Staff School, Command and General Staff College, Joint Task Force Commanders Course, NATO Senior Reserve Officers Course and a Class of 2009 graduate of the U.S. Army War College, among many others.

**AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

His awards and decorations include two Bronze Star Medals, six Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, the Iraqi Campaign Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, Combat Action Badge, and Air Assault Badge, among other numerous federal awards. He has also been awarded many state awards, which include the Mississippi Magnolia Cross and two Mississippi Magnolia Medals, among others. His foreign decorations include the German Armed Forces Military Efficiency Badge.