

Paul T. Merklinger

Captain, Aviation, United States Army
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EDUCATION

THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

West Point, New York

- Bachelor of Science in American Politics with concentration in Systems Engineering, 2011
- Dean's List every semester, Distinguished Cadet, and Superintendent's Award for Achievement

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

82nd COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE, 82nd AIRBORNE DIVISION

Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Assault Company Commander

February 2016-Present

- Commanded one of three assault helicopter companies in the 82nd Airborne Division including the first aircrews in the history of the United States Army to qualify through aerial gunnery table XII.
- Personally responsible for 48 Soldiers, 10 UH-60M Blackhawk helicopters, and a property book valued over \$159 million. Charged with ensuring the company is properly trained and prepared for combat.

Battalion Assistant Operations Officer

November 2015-February 2016

- Served as the action officer for the Army-wide Fiscal Year 16 Aviation Resource Management Survey (ARMS). Recorded the highest score in the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade during the inspection; yielded an increase in 15% from the FY 13 ARMS inspection.

159TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Regional Command East, Afghanistan

Brigade Command Group Executive Assistant/Assistant Operations Officer

December 2014-May 2015

- Responsible for the administrative actions, paperwork, calendar management, knowledge management, and travel for the brigade command group of the 4,000 Soldier Combat Aviation Brigade.
- Solely responsible for liaising with numerous civilian and military agencies to obtain funding to support a military formal event for over 1,000. Personally responsible for the 159th Combat Aviation Brigade's activities fund managing and paying over \$80,000 in support of this event.

Flight Company Executive Officer

July 2013-December 2013, April 2014-December 2014

- Responsible for the company's property, personnel, and equipment including two change of command inventories of two property books valued over \$160 million dollars.
- Served as the company commander while deployed for two and a half months. Planned, executed, and approved aviation missions in a dynamic, complex environment.

Flight Company Platoon Leader

December 2013- April 2014

- Personally responsible for 22 Soldiers and 5 UH-60M Blackhawk helicopters, and their supporting equipment valued over \$75 million.
- Charged with the professional, scholastic, and physical development of the pilots and aircrew including career progression in a deployed environment. Trusted as officer in charge of the first deployed troops to Afghanistan from Task Force Eagle Attack to establish the unit's footprint.

- Charged with the personnel management of a 470 Soldier Joint-Task Force including assignment on the Global Response Force. Executed numerous readiness exercises
- Responsible for all personnel actions including evaluations, awards, and financial actions.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence Captain's Career Course
 - (*Commandant's List-top 20% of class based on academic score and peer evaluations*)
- Aviation Officer's Basic Course
- Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape School (High Risk)
- UH-60A/M Blackhawk Aircraft Qualification Course
- Initial Entry Rotary Wing Aviator Course
- Pathfinder School
- Air Assault School

ACADEMIC AWARDS

- Colonel George K. Osborn III Award for Excellence in Political Science
 - Highest scholastic average in SS373- The American Presidency
- Highest scholastic average in PL393- Criminology and The Criminal Justice System
- Highest scholastic average in SE300- Introduction to Systems Engineering
- General John J. Pershing Reflective Essay Bronze Medallion winner
 - 1 of 28 winners selected from the 1036 cadet class of 2011

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Online Political Behavior, Voter Behavior and Political Participation, Mass Media and American Politics, Civilian-Military Relations, Judicial Politics, and United States-Brazil Relations

LANGUAGES

- Basic speaking, comprehension, and translation in Spanish and Portuguese
 - Studied four semesters of Portuguese including one month-long cultural immersion in Brazil

MILITARY AWARDS & DEOCRATIONS

- Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (3), Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal (1 Star), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Action Badge, Army Aviator Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, and German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency- Gold Award

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Experienced user of all Microsoft Office applications including Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Federal Aviation Administration Rated Aviator- Commercial Instrument Rotary Wing- Type Rating for S-70
- Flown over 830 flight hours including duties as air mission commander, pilot in command, and more than 400 combat hours.