

# BIOGRAPHY

## UNITED STATES ARMY

### COLONEL WILL B. FREDS

COL Will Freds is the Deputy Commander of Joint Base San Antonio and the 502nd Air Base Wing. The 8,000-person 502nd ABW consolidates 49 installation management support functions for a military community with an annual operating budget of more than \$700 million. The joint base supports more than 80,000 full-time personnel, 145,000 students and a retiree community of more than 250,000. The 502 ABW also supports more than \$37 billion in directed projects. The organization has host responsibilities for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, JBSA-Camp Bullis, JBSA-Lackland, JBSA-Randolph, and seven other operating locations.

Freds graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point with a degree in political science. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a field artillery officer. Since then, he has held a variety of leadership positions for the U.S. Army. Freds completed multiple professional military training and advanced educational programs. Prior to his current position, the colonel was the chief of staff of U.S. Army North Task Force-51.

The colonel is a native of Northeast Indiana. He has a Master of Science degree in business administration from San Diego State University, a Master of Defense Studies degree from the Canadian Forces College and a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College.

He has deployed twice to the Republic of Korea and completed one tour in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



### EDUCATION

1997 Bachelor of Science, Political Science, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y  
1998 Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Fort Sill, Okla  
1998 U.S. Army Airborne School, Fort Benning, Ga  
2002 Armor Captain's Career Course, Fort Knox, Ky  
2007 Master of Science, Business Administration, San Diego State University, San Diego, Calif  
2011 Master of Defense Studies, Canadian Forces College, North York, Ontario, Canada  
2019 Master of Arts, Strategic Studies, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, Pa

### ASSIGNMENTS

1. December 1999 – November 2000, Executive Officer, Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 37th Field Artillery, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash
2. December 2000 – June 2002, Battalion Fire Direction Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 37th Field Artillery, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash
3. July 2002 – September 2003, Maneuver Training Officer, G3, 1st Infantry Division, Wurzburg, Germany
4. October 2003 – January 2004, Battalion S1 personnel administration, Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, 33rd Field Artillery, Warner Barracks, Germany

5. February 2004 – May 2004, Battalion S1 (FWD IZ), Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, 33rd Field Artillery, Bayji, Iraq
6. June 2004 – February 2005, Commander (FWD IZ), Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, 33rd Field Artillery, Bayji, Iraq
7. March 2005 – May 2007, Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, 33rd Field Artillery, Warner Barracks, Germany
8. January 2006 – June 2009, Student Master of Science, Business Administration, San Diego State University, Calif
9. June 2007 – December 2005, Regional Commander, United States Military Academy Staff and Faculty, West Point, N.Y.
10. July 2009 – April 2010, Warrior in Transition, Warrior in Transition Unit, West Point, New York
11. May 2010 – July 2011 Joint Command and Staff Program (ILE), Canadian Forces College, Toronto, Canada
12. August 2011 – June 2013, Operations Officer and Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 377th Field Artillery, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash
13. May 2013 – April 2014, Brigade Deputy Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 210th Field Artillery Brigade, Camp Casey, Republic of Korea
14. May 2014 – October 2015, Secretary General Staff, Headquarters and Headquarters Company I-Corps, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash
15. November 2015 – October 2017, Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 3-13th Field Artillery, Fort Sill, Okla
16. November 2017 – June 2018, Deputy Commander, Headquarters, 75th Field Artillery Brigade, Fort Sill, Okla
17. July 2018 – June 2019, U.S Army War College, Carlisle, Penn
18. July 2019 – June 2022, Chief of Staff, Russia Strategic Initiative, Headquarters United States Army European Command, Vaihingen, Germany
19. July 2022 – March 2024, Chief of Staff, Task Force-51, United States Army North, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas
20. April 2024 – Present, Deputy Commander, JBSA and 502nd Air Base Wing, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, Texas

#### **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Defense Superior Service Medal  
Bronze Star Medal  
Korea Defense Service Medal  
Iraq Campaign Medal (Combat)  
Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters  
Army Commendation Medal  
Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster  
Meritorious Unit Commendation

#### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant May 31, 1997  
First Lieutenant Nov.30, 1998  
Captain Dec. 1, 2000  
Major Jan. 1, 2007  
Lieutenant Colonel, Apr. 1, 2014  
Colonel, July 1, 2019

**(CURRENT AS OF MAY 2024)**